

Court asked that doctors check deputies

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Jordan Medical Association (JMA) Friday asked the State Security Court to allow a JMA team to visit Lower House of Parliament members Laith Shbeilat and Yacoub Quraish in detention to examine them. A memorandum sent by JMA President Ishaq Maraga to the chief of the State Security Court said the two deputies should undergo medical tests after they announced an indefinite hunger-strike last week, the Jordan News Agency, Petra, reported. The two deputies, along with two shopkeepers, are on trial charged with affiliation to an illegal armed group plotting to overthrow the regime, possession of arms and explosives and undermining Jordanian-Iraqi relations. The trial started Sept. 29. Their hunger-strike is in protest against the court's handling of the proceedings of the case.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
جورديان تايمز يومية مستقلة بالانجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الاردنية «الراي»

AMMAN PLAZA
DINNER THEATRE
ON 27TH -
28TH
AND 29TH
OCTOBER
FOR RESERVATION, PLEASE CALL
674111 (EXT 6543)

Bedouin Foreigners
The Comedy by DAVID FREEMAN
THE BRITISH AIRWAYS

Volume 17 Number 5140

AMMAN SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24, 1992, RAB' AL THANI 28, 1413

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams

Israel, after presenting its offer, says Syria must take first step

Combined agency despatches

ISRAEL'S CHIEF negotiator at talks with Syria said Friday Damascus must make the move now that the Jews has signalled flexibility on issue of withdrawal from the Golan Heights. It is clear... that Israel has a substantial step and that a sense must now come from Syrian side," chief negotiator

Itamar Rabinovich told Radio in a telephone interview from Washington broadcast Friday. Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin was cryptic when asked by radio if the word "withdrawal" contained for the first time in an Israeli document which was presented at the peace talks on Thursday — represented a substantial change or mere terminology.

Arab teams exchange views

RAB DELEGATIONS participating in the seventh round of Arab-Israeli bilateral talks met Friday in Washington to review the outcome of the first week of the round.

Following the meeting, chief Jordanian negotiator Abdul Salam Majali said the Jordanian and Israeli delegations were still discussing the agenda of the talks. He said the stands of the two sides were still different from each other and no basic change was witnessed in the Israeli position. "Some verbal changes took place at some points, but differences are still substantial," he said. Dr. Majali attributed the differences in the stands of the two sides to Israel's refusal to change its position vis-a-vis U.N. Security Council Resolution 242.

"Better (withdrawal) on paper than on the ground," Mr. Rabin said. But Mr. Rabin also said he did not believe it was possible to make peace without a "territorial dimension". Mr. Rabin and Mr. Rabinovich stressed that Israel will agree to discuss limited withdrawal from the strategic heights only if Syria committed itself in detail to full peace.

"When our quest for peace and our quest for security are satisfied, we will not shy away from introducing the element of withdrawal into a settlement," Mr. Rabinovich said before the second day of the current round of talks at the State Department Thursday.

Syrian delegation chief Muwafak Al Allaf said Wednesday it was a good sign that the Israelis, after a year of talks, were now "not shy about using the word 'withdrawal' in their documents." But he said the Israelis were still far from meeting Syria's demand for total withdrawal from the Golan in exchange for a

Syrian pledge of peace. Mr. Rabinovich said that while the Syrians objected to aspects of Israel's presentation, their response was "quite positive." He said he expected the Syrians to elaborate on their views after a night of reviewing Israel's statements and "we are all ears." The seventh round of talks, also involving Lebanon and Jordan, are to continue until Nov. 19, with a week off around the Nov. 3 U.S. election.

Israel and the Palestinians, meanwhile, resumed talks on the shape of self-government for the Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza. Palestinian delegation chief Haidar Abdul Shafi said there was "nothing exciting to report" from the session (see page 5).

Israeli spokesman Yossi Gal said his delegation had come to the Syrian talks with "new formulations touching upon the

(Continued on page 3)
Palestinians press for Israeli commitment, page 5

Palestinians say no deal in multilateral meetings

VIS (Agencies) — Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) led on Friday it had reached a deal to end Israel's boycott of multilateral talks that are part of Middle East peace process. French spokesman said on Friday after a meeting between Foreign Minister Roland Mas and PLO's foreign affairs Farouk Kaddoumi in Paris conditions appear to be met for Israelis and Palestinians partition in the Paris round of talks.

At Abu Ala, the PLO's over-ordinator for the multilateral talks, said there was no change in organisation's position. Delegations to the economic refugees talks remain unchanged... Yusef Al Zuhayr will lead the Palestinian delegation at the economic talks. Elias Sanbar will lead the delegation. Abu Ala said a secret deal on representation had been reached earlier in Washington but Israel rejected it. "We didn't retract from it. Unfortunately, it is Israel which withdrew from it," he said. He also denied reports that Egyptian Foreign Minister Amr Musa has told Israel last week that the PLO agreed that the PNC members would not attend the multilateral talks. "Israeli statements that there was a change in the Palestinian position on representation at the multilateral talks are baseless," Yasser Abed Rabbo, PLO Executive Committee member, told Reuters.

salem and from the diaspora," he added. Israel has always refused to participate in multilateral talks in which Palestinians from outside the occupied territories serve as delegates.

However, Israel's new Labour-led government last month softened the line of the former Likud-led administration of Yitzhak Shamir by agreeing that Palestinians from outside the West Bank and Gaza Strip could attend the talks as advisers to the delegation.

Abu Ala said a secret deal on representation had been reached earlier in Washington but Israel rejected it. "We didn't retract from it. Unfortunately, it is Israel which withdrew from it," he said.

He also denied reports that Egyptian Foreign Minister Amr Musa has told Israel last week that the PLO agreed that the PNC members would not attend the multilateral talks.

"Israeli statements that there was a change in the Palestinian position on representation at the multilateral talks are baseless," Yasser Abed Rabbo, PLO Executive Committee member, told Reuters.

King Hassan said to have new Mideast peace ideas

DHAHRAN (Agencies) — King Hassan of Morocco has proposed new ideas to push forward the Middle East peace process during talks with King Fahd of Saudi Arabia, Arab diplomats said Friday.

They said the main issue discussed by the two monarchs Thursday, during the first leg of an extensive regional tour by the Moroccan king, was how to promote Arab-Israeli peace talks. The seventh round of talks started in Washington Wednesday.

"It seems King Hassan has specific ideas to achieve progress in the talks," said one diplomat, but did not elaborate.

King Hassan had inconclusive talks in Morocco in 1988 with an earlier Israeli prime minister, Shimon Peres. He is reported to have helped to arrange the 1977 visit to occupied Jerusalem by the late Egyptian President Anwar Sadat. The Arab diplomats said King Hassan and King Fahd also discussed a territorial dispute between Saudi Arabia and Qatar but that the Moroccan monarch would not act as a mediator between the two Gulf neighbours.

The King, on his most extensive regional tour in 30 years, will also visit the United Arab Emirates (UAE), Jordan, Syria and Egypt. He is expected to arrive in the UAE Saturday.

Morocco-based political commentators have suggested that the tour could result in an Arab summit to rebuild solidarity lost during the Gulf crisis and heal splits between individual states.

But the 21-member Arab League has brushed aside the suggestion, at least for the time being. Moroccan officials accompanying the monarch said King Hassan will call for an Arab summit to be held in Morocco to heal the inter-Arab rift worsened by the Gulf war.

Speaking on condition of anonymity, the officials said the king had received what they called "green signals" to his efforts aimed at bringing the Arabs together for the first time since they met in Cairo in August 1990.

The officials said the King's talks with Syrian President Hafez Al Assad in Damascus are aimed at expediting a meeting between Mr. Assad and Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin.

Hariri's premiership boosts Lebanon's hopes

RUT (Agencies) — The appointment of billionaire Rafik Hariri as prime minister Thursday has raised the hopes of millions in this devastated country sharply boosted the national mood.

Hariri, whose rise from a background to massive wealth captivated the imagination of Lebanon, said he aimed to establish a government that would lead the country to a future of peace and stability.

Lebanese pound appreciated 2,000 to the dollar, 205 cents better than its closing rate yesterday, after the Syrian- and Iraq-backed tycoon emerged as likely head of the new government.

Hariri, often described by his friends as very generous, started as an accountant in Saudi Arabia in 1965 and built much of his fortune in the oil-rich kingdom.

The 49-year-old self-made billionaire has financed scores of construction and development projects in Lebanon since the civil war came to an end in October 1990.

tycoon could encourage Lebanon — already Lebanon's main bankroller — and oil-rich Gulf states to invest in the country and resume badly damaged economy. President Elias Hrawi named Mr. Hariri's appointment

ment after consulting with the 128 members of parliament. The billionaire garnered support from more than 90 of them.

In accepting the designation, Mr. Hariri pledged to put together a cabinet capable of "translating the hopes of the Lebanese for liberating the south and building a future based on restoring confidence and stability."

Mr. Hariri began consultations with former heads of government to poll their views on the makeup of a new cabinet he is expected to announce next week.

"I'm confident that Mr. Hariri will be up to the historic responsibility he will shoulder and will meet the expectations of the Lebanese people," former Prime Minister Salim Hoss said after meeting with Mr. Hariri.

Rashid Solh, head of the outgoing cabinet currently serving in a caretaker capacity, said he consulted with Mr. Hariri and "wished him luck."

The two previous cabinets failed to check economic chaos caused by a 41 per cent deficit on a 1992 budget of around \$900 million that was never approved, a growing internal debt of more than \$1.5 billion and a free-falling Lebanese pound.

Bankers and economists said Mr. Hariri was the best man to restore international confidence demolished by war, the seizure of Western hostages and political turmoil, and attract funds for



Rafik Hariri

rebuilding. "He is the man we all have been waiting for since the political began its big slump in 1986," banker Sami Na'amani told Reuters.

"We needed a man with his clean reputation and highly impressive business record. Now his time has finally arrived."

"He doesn't have a magic wand, but everyone knows that he will do the job. All Hariri needs is a free hand and time."

Another banker said he expected Arab and Western aid for war reconstruction to flow in with Mr. Hariri's appointment.

"In the past Arab donor countries were disappointed with the way their donations or loans were spent," he said. "Saudi Arabia and other donors see Hariri as a trustworthy man. I expect aid is on the way."

Lebanon puts war damage at more than \$15 billion.

Tremor causes panic in Cairo

CAIRO (Agencies) — Many people in Cairo panicked Thursday night when a fresh earthquake shook the Egyptian capital, still suffering from the trauma of the most serious earthquake in its modern history.

Residents of slum areas, where poor quality housing was worst hit by the Oct. 12 earthquake which killed 552 people, ran into the streets for safety.

Some women were seen screaming in panic. A few people jumped from windows and balconies in various parts of the city. Security sources reported some minor injuries.

"No-one can do anything to stop earthquakes. We don't know what to do anyway... this is something from God... I ran into the streets without realising where I was," said Samira Fatih, 34.

A damaged seven-storey building collapsed in a slum district but there were no casualties. Residents said they had evacuated the building despite assurances by a local engineering team that it needed only minor repairs.

The official Middle East News Agency (MENA) said two apartment buildings in Cairo and Giza were damaged. An Afghan student suffered multiple fractures after he panicked and jumped from his balcony, police said.

Crown Prince urges focus on social, humanitarian issues of Middle East

BRUSSELS (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan has stressed the importance of directing special attention to the social and humanitarian issues of the Middle East.

Prince Hassan said that the United Nations agenda, while full of global issues, did not include any sign of interest in the Middle East.

"Such a situation could put us in a corner and isolate us from the areas receiving global concern, thus undermining our ability to move," the Crown Prince said.

In an interview with the French newspaper Le Soir and the Flemish newspaper De Standard, Prince Hassan said the meetings of the committees emanating from the multilateral phase of the Middle East peace conference, particularly the panel on regional economic cooperation, cannot achieve any progress unless the social and humanitarian dimensions are addressed and given priority.

Prince Hassan, who arrived here Thursday, stressed the important role Belgium can play when it assumes the presidency of the European Community.

Prince Hassan called for initiating non-formal Arab-European dialogue, and urged joint Arab-European action in various fields, saying that such proposals go

hand-in-hand with contents of the conference on security and economic cooperation in Europe.

Prince Hassan also proposed the formation of an Islamic Euro-Arab forum for exchanging ideas.

On the Middle East peace process, Prince Hassan said that several weeks ago, ahead of the Nov. 3 U.S. elections, there were positive expectations of progress but now it seems those expectations are still expectations. "However, the important thing is to pursue dialogue under the umbrella of international legitimacy," Prince Hassan said.

He pointed out that Israel still refuses officially to take part in the multilateral meetings on refugees, although it is participating in the peace process.

"The issue of refugees is of significant importance to Jordan from a demographic perspective, because Jordan houses the largest number of refugees in the region with a ratio of 1:4," he said.

"This, of course, exhausts much of Jordan's natural and human resources."

The Crown Prince said Jordan's population stands now at four million. "Had it not been for the massive migrations which took place in 1948, 1967 and 1990, Jordan's population would not have exceeded 2.5 million," Prince Hassan pointed out.



He stressed the need for assisting Jordan through the efforts of America, Europe and Belgium to shoulder the burdens placed on the Kingdom.

On the expectations of the Palestinians from the peace process, Prince Hassan said Jordan would adhere to its position, which supports the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people to self-determination on their national soil and the application of international legitimacy.

He noted that the provisional self-rule for Palestinians, if agreed upon, would serve as a transition-

al arrangement pending a final solution to the Palestine question.

Prince Hassan ruled out any linkage between an end to the Arab boycott of Israel and to the Jewish state's settlement activity, saying that "boycott is a commercial issue while settlement activity is a security issue."

On the possibility of forming a confederation between Jordan and the Palestinians, Prince Hassan said it was premature to talk about the issue. "When the time becomes ripe, people will be given the right to choose," Prince Hassan said.

On the political situation and pluralism in Jordan, Prince Hassan said Jordan would follow the democratic path it has charted, and that the next parliamentary elections will take place in 1993.

On political parties, Prince Hassan said the government had so far received seven requests for registering political parties.

He stressed the importance of fostering institutional democracy and adopting it as a basic basis. He said all Jordanian citizens were keen on preserving the security and stability of the country within the framework of institutional democracy.

Prince Hassan reviewed with

(Continued on page 3)

Palestinian dies 10 days after shot by Israeli troops

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — A Palestinian died in hospital Friday 10 days after he was shot and critically wounded by Israeli forces in the Israeli-occupied West Bank, Palestinians said.

They said Issam Al Khatib, 21, died from multiple gunshot wounds he suffered when an Israeli force surprised him as he wrote graffiti in the town of Al Ram, north of Jerusalem.

Palestinians said the Israeli force had shot Khatib from close range after first wounding him from a distance. They said Khatib was shot a total of seven times.

His death raised to 946 the number of Palestinians killed by Israelis since the start of the uprising against Israeli rule some five years ago, according to a Reuters count. An AP count put it at 939.

In the West Bank village of Hussen, near Bethlehem, 150 Jewish settlers from the nearby enclave of Betar rampaged late Thursday damaging a number of vehicles and stoning Arab houses, the mass-circulation Yedioth Ahronoth said.

Israeli soldiers were summoned by villagers detained three settlers who refused to leave the area. The settlers said troops used shock grenades against them.

"Salt bullet" The army revealed Friday it is developing a non-lethal salt bullet that could be used to disperse Palestinian demonstrators.

The report in the official Israeli military weekly Bamaachane said the new bullet would cause victims to feel a burning sensation for up to two days.

The army "is constantly searching for means that do not cause casualties," said a military official who cannot be identified by name under briefing rules.

He added: "Sometimes these developments come to operational use, and sometimes not."

Two years ago, the army said it was developing a non-lethal bullet made of hardened sand to add to its arsenal. Soldiers and hospital officials say they have never seen evidence such a bullet was put into use.

The army's current "non-lethal" arsenal includes clubs, tear-gas, rubber bullets and rubber-coated metal pellets.

Plastic bullets, similar in shape and size to live ammunition, were designed to reduce fatalities but proved to be lethal if they hit the head, neck or abdomen. They still are used by the army.

The Bamaachane report said the army's development unit, Yiftah, was working on the new salt bullets.

Peres invites Pope to visit occupied Jerusalem

VATICAN CITY (AP) — Pope John Paul II and Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres met Friday as part of steps by the Vatican and the Jewish state to normalise relations. Mr. Peres said he invited the Pope to visit Israel.

"I told him that I invite him in the name of Israel to visit Israel and he was very excited," Mr. Peres told Israeli Radio. "It was a very, very emotional meeting and when I gave him the invitation tears almost rolled down my face," Mr. Peres said.

The foreign minister also said that during their talks in the Pope's private library the two agreed on the exchange of "personal representatives at a later date." That apparently would be a step short of formal diplomatic ties.

In its official account of the 40-minute session, the Vatican did not say if or when the Pope would go to Israel, and a Vatican spokesman, Monsignor Piero Pennacchini, when asked about Mr. Peres' comments, would not go beyond the communiqué.

The vatican statement noted the Pope's "fervent desire, many times expressed, to one day be able to be a pilgrim in that region, and, above all, in the Holy Land and in Jerusalem. Holy City for all Jewish, Christian and Muslim

"Visit only after issues resolved"

DEPUTY APOSTOLIC Delegate in Amman Monsignor Raouf Najjar said Friday the Pope would visit Israel only after a just solution to the Palestinian question and the issue of Jerusalem is found. Monsignor Najjar was commenting on news reports saying the Pope had told Mr. Peres he would visit Israel.

believers and crossroads of peace for all the peoples of the Middle East.

It made no mention of an exchange of personal representatives. Mr. Peres also said on radio that the pontiff expressed his concern about anti-Semitism in Germany.

On Thursday, Israeli Radio reported that Mr. Peres was going to invite the Pope to visit Israel.

When the two men stepped outside the library for official photographs, one of the reporters asked the Pope, "are we going to (occupied) Jerusalem?"

"It's possible," the Pope, in a light-hearted mood, replied.

Assiut preacher assails arrests in tourist bus attack

ASSIUT (AP) — A Muslim preacher bitterly attacked the government Friday for arresting two prominent lawyers connected with a Muslim extremist group that admitted killing a British tourist in southern Egypt.

Dozens of bearded men in white robes listened to the sermon at Al Rahma Mosque in the centre of Assiut after Friday noon prayers under the stars of plainclothed policemen deployed in case of trouble.

The preacher, who identified himself only as Sheikh Hassan, said two lawyers were arrested Thursday after distributing a claim by Al Gamma Al Islamiya that it was responsible for shooting a tour bus the day before.

A British nurse died in the assault, and two British men suffered minor wounds.

Al Gamma Al Islamiya is a loose-knit collection of Muslim extremist factions that has stepped up violence this year in southern Egypt against officials, police, Coptic Christians and — for the first time — foreign tourists. Al Rahma Mosque is Al Gamma's main place of worship in Assiut, 385 kilometres south of

Cairo. Sheikh Hassan said Mustafa Sayyed, 32, a spokesman for Al Gamma in Assiut, and Radwan Al Tuni, another attorney of the group, were arrested as they left a downtown Cairo hotel.

The two had gone to the capital to distribute the responsibility claim to foreign news agencies, the preacher said.

A police official announced Thursday that two suspected extremists, one believed to be an Al Gamma spokesman, were arrested in the southern fundamentalist hotbed of Dairut.

"Our brothers' stand with Al Gamma to express their opinion through the free media. Their contact with (news) agencies has led to their arrest," Sheikh Hassan told the worshippers.

He deplored "the violence used by security forces nationwide in arresting innocent people."

In the responsibility claim, first released to local reporters in Assiut, the extremists said they consider tourists their number two targets after government officials.

Turkey sends its troops to fight rebel Kurds in Iraq

ANKARA (Agencies) — Thousands of Turkish troops have crossed into northern Iraq to flush an estimated 8,000 Turkish Kurdish guerrillas from their mountain strongholds, Prime Minister Suleyman Demirel said Friday.

Mr. Demirel, referring to the guerrillas as "mosquitoes," told a news conference that Ankara wanted to deny them sanctuary in northern Iraq, where the Baghdad government has no authority.

"Turkey is trying to dry up a swamp and is also struggling with the mosquitoes," he said. "It is not easy to reach a solution by struggling with mosquitoes."

Turkish newspaper and radio reports indicated that about 5,000 troops were engaged in a three-pronged operation to destroy Kurdish Labour Party (PKK) bases in northern Iraq.

Turkey's semi-official Anatolia news agency, in its first report on the operation, said troops backed by helicopters, planes and artillery had advanced 10 kilometres inside Iraq without meeting much PKK resistance.

It said troops, accompanied by state-paid Kurdish village guards,

had occupied a hill overlooking PKK bases in the Hakurk Valley, near where the borders of Iran, Iraq and Turkey meet.

The only Turkish casualty so far was a soldier who lost a foot when he stepped on a landmine, the agency added.

Turkish planes also staged a new airstrike against the rebel bases Friday morning, witnesses said.

Turkish jet fighters have been bombing the camps for the past two weeks. But in the past, troops have ranged no more than two into Iraq along the 260-kilometre border.

Mines in the mountainous northern Iraq slowed down the Turkish military offensive and the Turkish soldiers were able to move only about three kilometres inside the region on the first day of the land operation, newspapers said.

The Istanbul daily Hurriyet said the troops would be able to move another three kilometres farther inside Iraq Friday.

PKK guerrillas have been fighting a war in southeastern Turkey since 1984. They operate mainly from bases in northern Iraq.

Heavy fighting reported in Sudan

NAIROBI (Agencies) — Heavy fighting was reported early Friday in the Sudanese provincial capital of Malakal, four days after rebels claimed to have seized most of the city.

A faction of the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) said 409 government soldiers had been killed and 700 wounded and spoke of continuing fighting around the city's airport.

But in Khartoum, a government newspaper quoted the governor in Malakal as saying the city and its suburbs were quiet and life was normal.

The daily newspaper Al Engaz Al Watani said the rebels had attacked the village of Obeir, about 20 kilometres west of Malakal, but had not entered the city.

In a press release issued in Nairobi, the capital of neighbouring Kenya, the rebel faction gave no casualty figures for its own forces.

But in a separate statement, the faction's secretary for humanitarian affairs, Simon Mori Didumo, said there had been "thousands of casualties" in "bitter and heavy fighting."

Mr. Didumo appealed to the international community to provide food, medicine, clothes, blankets, tents and other aid to "alleviate the immense suffering of the people of Malakal."

The two reports could not be confirmed, but United Nations and private relief organisations said there had been fighting around the city, the capital of Upper Nile province.

Southern Sudan has no regular telecommunications links with the rest of the world and travel in the region is highly restricted by both the government and the rebels.

If the rebel claims are true, it would be the first time Malakal had fallen into rebel hands since they took up arms against the government in Khartoum in 1983.

The SPLA was formed by Colonel John Garang, an army defector who seeks greater autonomy for the predominantly Christian and animist south-easterners.

The insurgency split in August 1991, with breakaway guerrillas accusing Col. Garang of dictatorial rule and human rights abuses. It was the breakaway group,

known as the Nasir faction, that claimed to have overrun most of Malakal in an attack that began Sunday.

In its statement Thursday, the group said: "Heavy fighting is raging in the area of the airport, where the remnants of the enemy's forces have been broken up into small pockets."

The Khartoum newspaper, on the other hand, quoted the governor of Upper Nile province as saying air traffic was flowing smoothly through the airport.

The rebel group claimed that it had captured six Iranian military advisors and the city's entire police force had defected to the insurgent forces.

Malakal and Juba, the capital of Equatoria province, are the government's major garrison towns in southern Sudan and have been key targets of the rebels throughout the conflict. Juba remains in government hands, but has been under rebel siege for months.

Sudan assails EC
On Wednesday, Sudan rejected European Community (EC) condemnation of the execu-

tion of one of its Sudanese employees and accused it of siding with southern rebels.

The foreign ministry, in a statement carried by the Sudanese news agency (SUNA), said the man had been helping the SPLA and had been convicted of treason.

"We are afraid that the EC remarks are a sign that they have actually taken sides with the outlaws, contrary to their alleged neutrality," the ministry said.

The EC Commission employee was executed in August in Juba. The commission is the EC executive arm.

"We in Sudan had always cherished the hope that the EC sources of information could be free of bias and we had always wished the community could refrain from obtaining its information from hostile circles whose only aim is to spoil the image of the Sudan government," the ministry said.

Britain, as current EC president, called in a Sudanese diplomat on Friday to demand a full explanation for the execution.

MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

Tunisian minister meets Israeli Arab deputies

TUNIS (R) — Tunisia's foreign minister has held unprecedented talks in Tunis with two Israeli Arab parliamentarians, Arab diplomatic sources said. They said Abdul Wahab Darawsha and Taleb Al Sane, who represent the Arab Democratic Party in the Knesset, met Habib Ben Yahia Tuesday. There is no known precedent for a meeting between a Tunisian official and Israeli passport holders. Like all Arab countries except Egypt, Tunisia has no diplomatic relations with Israel. The two deputies came to Tunis to see Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat who gave them a message Sunday for Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, saying he was prepared to meet him to promote Middle East peace. The official news agency TAP said Mr. Ben Yahia received "a Palestinian delegation visiting Tunisia and discussed with it the peace process...and the role of Tunisia in helping the Palestinian people to regain their national and legitimate rights."

Rabin meets Dutch deputy defence minister

TEL AVIV (AP) — Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin thanked the visiting deputy defence minister of the Netherlands for military aid given to Israel during the Gulf war and called on the Dutch to buy more Israeli products, the ministry said Friday. In a meeting with Berend-Jan van Voorst tot Voorst Thursday, Mr. Rabin also repeated his regrets over the El Al cargo jet crash in Amsterdam on Oct. 4 that killed some 70 people. Mr. Rabin met with Mr. Van Voorst in his capacity as defence minister. The Dutch government rushed an anti-missile Patriot battery to Israel after Arab began firing Scud missiles at the Jewish state. The battery arrived a day before a ceasefire was declared and never went into action. Mr. Rabin also took the opportunity to push for more purchases to Israeli products by the Netherlands to help offset a large Israeli trade deficit with the European Community.

New U.S. exercise in Kuwait announced

WASHINGTON (AP) — About 1,700 U.S. soldiers will begin deploying next week to Kuwait to take part in a field training exercise, the Pentagon announced Thursday. The new deployment is beginning even before some troops that had been sent to the country for the last round of joint exercises with their Kuwaiti counterparts have returned home. Pentagon spokesman Bob Hall said the latest exercise, dubbed "Intrinsic Action 93-1," is intended to "further exercise and demonstrate the United States' commitment to the security and stability" of the Gulf region. Two armour companies, one infantry company, their combat support and combat service support units, and a headquarters unit from the 1st Cavalry Division at Fort Hood, Texas, will take part in the exercise, Mr. Hall said. The units will deploy without equipment and will use equipment that was previously sent to Kuwait, the Pentagon said. The exercise will begin Thursday and run through Dec. 20, Mr. Hall said. Overall, Mr. Hall said, there are about 20,500 U.S. members of the army, navy and air force still in the region in the wake of the Gulf war.

Iran claims 11,000 drug arrests in six months

NICOSIA (AP) — More than 11,000 drug traffickers and addicts have been arrested over the past six months by the Iranian police and turned over to the courts, the Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) reported. The head of the court for drug campaign, Habibollah Maqisy, said there are 160 foreign nationals, mostly Afghans, among those arrested, the agency said. It said Mr. Maqisy added that more than 8,335 kilograms of various kinds of drugs have been seized from smugglers in the current year, a fourfold increase over the period last year. Under Iranian law, drug traffickers are executed. The principal Iranian opposition group, Mujahadeen-e-Khalq, claims that the Tehran government executes captured dissidents under the guise of the drug campaign.

Refugees from Sarajevo arrive in Israel

TEL AVIV (AP) — A group of 41 Jewish refugees from the war-torn city of Sarajevo in Bosnia arrived in Israel Thursday. This brings the number of Jews brought out of Yugoslavia since the fighting between Serbian, Croatian and Bosnian groups began last year to 700, a Jewish Agency statement said. The refugees told Israel Television they expected the lack of food and shelter in the city to worsen as the winter set in. "There is no electricity, no water, no food, there are snipers and now winter comes," Irena Harkash said. "Sarajevo is a death city." The Jewish Agency is the major body operating the rescue and immigration of Jews to Israel. The 500-year-old Jewish community of Sarajevo numbers several hundred. There are an estimated 4,800 Jews in what was once Yugoslavia.

Demirel to visit Pakistan and Iran

ANKARA (AP) — Prime Minister Suleyman Demirel will pay official visits to Pakistan and Iran this year, the foreign ministry announced Thursday. Mr. Demirel's two-day visit to Islamabad, beginning Saturday, at the invitation of his Pakistani counterpart, Nawaz Sharif Khan, will be followed by a visit to Tehran at the invitation of Iran's first vice president, Hasan Habibi, the announcement said. An agreement for closer bilateral ties in the economic and trade fields was expected to be signed in Pakistan, while in Iran, discussions would centre mainly on collaboration in combating terrorism in the two neighbouring countries and strengthening bilateral relations, the ministry said. Mr. Demirel returns home next Tuesday.

Ghali recommends polls observers for Eritrea

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — Secretary-General Boutros Ghali Thursday recommended a 120-member team, costing less than \$3 million, to monitor a referendum next April in Eritrea to determine its political status. "This is not only an important step towards the establishment of democracy, but also an integral part of the consolidation of peace," he said in a report to the General Assembly. "This can contribute decisively to the stability of the region," he said. Dr. Ghali said that 21 international staff supported by local personnel would be required before actual

polling to verify that the referendum by northern Ethiopia will be fair, that electoral rolls are properly drawn up and that all parties can participate. The monitoring itself in April would require 120 persons, including the staff already present. It also would cover verification of counting and results. The entire process would last about six months and cost less than \$3 million, he said. The operation would be called the U.N. Observer Mission to Verify the Referendum in Eritrea. The secretary-general said he hoped for deployment of the international staff by the end of October.

South Koreans kidnapped in Iran set free

SEOUL (R) — Four South Korean construction workers who were kidnapped last month by gunmen in Iran have been released, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said Thursday. "The four workers are all safe," the spokesman said. "Two of them who were released last week have returned to work. The other two are in police custody in Iran." He said further details were not available. The four workers of Daewoo Corp., a unit of the Daewoo group, were kidnapped on Sept. 21 near a construction site. Another worker was injured during the kidnapping. About 1,400 employees from five South Korean construction companies are working in Iran.

U.S. F-16 crashes, pilot ejects safely

ADANA, Turkey (AP) — A U.S.-jet fighter crashed while on a training mission Thursday but the pilot ejected safely, a spokesman at Incirlik airbase said. The F16 C jetfighter went down about 210 kilometres northwest of Incirlik base. Captain Jerry Reed said. The pilot was identified as Capt. Richard L. Martin, assigned to the 86th fighter wing at Ramstein airbase in Germany, he added. The U.S. pilot was here on temporary duty. Capt. Reed said the aircraft was on a routine weapons training mission. The cause of the crash was not immediately known. It was the second U.S. F-16 crash in less than two months near Incirlik.

Spanish minister says Arafat pessimistic

TUNIS (R) — Spanish Foreign Minister Javier Solana has said after meeting Yasser Arafat that the Palestine Liberation Organisation leader was pessimistic over Middle East peace talks. Mr. Solana met Mr. Arafat hours before the seventh round of Arab-Israeli peace talks began in Washington. "He is rather pessimistic," Mr. Solana told reporters afterwards. The peace process, launched in Madrid a year ago, has so far failed to make significant progress. Mr. Solana also met Tunisian President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali and Foreign Minister Habib Ben Yahia before leaving for Algeria. They discussed bilateral ties and dialogue between the European Community and the Maghreb states.

Memo prepared for Bush on Waite's efforts

NEW YORK (AP) — White House aides prepared a detailed memo for then-Vice President George Bush in 1985 about Anglican envoy Terry Waite's efforts to win the release of American hostages in Lebanon, the New York Times reported. The Times said that the existence of the classified memo was significant because it shows that aides gave Mr. Bush a wealth of details about the secret efforts, raising more questions about Mr. Bush's assertion that he was "not in the loop" about the Iran-contra arms-for-hostages affair. The classified memo, which was sent anonymously to the newspaper, did not conflict with Mr. Bush's past statements that he was aware of the efforts to free the hostages, the Times said in its Friday editions. National Security Council aide Oliver North prepared the memo for John Poindexter, then the deputy national security adviser to President Ronald Reagan, the newspaper said. It was written to familiarise Mr. Bush with Mr. Waite's hostage release activities in advance of the vice-president's hastily arranged meeting with Mr. Waite on Nov. 26, 1985. While the memo did not refer to the arms-for-hostages deal then in the works, it did request Mr. Bush to raise with Mr. Waite some of the ancillary demands the Iranians had made as part of hostage negotiations, the Times said. Mr. Waite eventually went to Lebanon and was taken captive while trying to negotiate the freedom of Western hostages. The Times said the memo, which is classified secret, was among documents sent anonymously to the newspaper. It quoted White House Counsel C. Boyden Gray as declining to discuss the contents of the document because of its classification. Earlier this week, officials of the Department of Justice and of the Iran-contra independent counsel's office asked the Times to surrender the documents, but the newspaper declined.

Alligator found on Israeli highway

TEL AVIV (AP) — Why did the American alligator cross the road? More specifically, why did it cross the main occupied Jerusalem-Tel Aviv highway? The wayward gator was spotted on the roadway Thursday by a truck driver, who describes himself as a nature lover. He told Israel Radio that he captured the reptile and took it for safekeeping to a small zoo in Tel Aviv suburb. After the report was carried on the radio, frightened people started calling the nature reserve authority to find out if there were, perhaps, more alligators on the loose. Dani Peri, director-general of the nature reserve authority, said he reassured people that alligators in Israel live only at several special farms and that he was checking to determine which farm was missing an alligator. It turned out the alligator had somehow escaped from a truck that was transporting it from a show near Tel Aviv back to an occupied Jerusalem reptile farm, he said. The alligator is to stay at the suburban Tel Aviv zoo until the circumstances of its escape were investigated.

U.S. aircraft carriers trade places

WASHINGTON (AP) — The aircraft carrier USS John F. Kennedy will replace the USS Saratoga in the Mediterranean Sea in the next few days, the Pentagon announced Thursday. The two carriers are in the Ionian Sea off Greece transferring operations, said Pentagon spokesman Bob Hall. In addition, the marine amphibious ready group headed by the USS Guam will trade places with the marine unit now in the Mediterranean, lead by the USS Iwo Jima. That change will take place early next month, Mr. Hall said.

Iraq, U.N. sign relief agreement

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — Iraq signed an agreement with the United Nations Thursday that allows a major relief programme to resume in the economically crippled country before the onset of winter.

The pact provides for \$200 million in aid, about half of which is to be sent to the Kurdish-controlled region of northern Iraq. The area is desperately in need of food, medicine, shelter and other supplies.

It permits as many as 300 U.N. guards to be sent to aid relief workers to travel throughout the country.

Iraq's earlier refusal to accept the agreement, which was to go into effect swiftly and last six months, was seen as a sign of its resistance to the allies' Gulf war ceasefire terms.

Iraq had resisted the presence of so many foreigners, saying that if U.N. economic sanctions were

lifted, Iraq itself could import the necessary food and supplies to care for its population. The sanctions against Iraq were imposed after it invaded Kuwait in 1990.

But on Thursday, Iraqi Ambassador Nizar Hamdoun expressed satisfaction after he signed the agreement with Jan Eliasson, under-secretary-general for humanitarian affairs.

"There are needy people all over the country in different places, and this programme covers a good portion of those areas that are in need," Mr. Hamdoun said.

The Iraqi envoy called the programme smaller than required, but said, "It's better than doing nothing."

Mr. Hamdoun said he believed that the new agreement will "improve relations" between Iraq and the world body "and create a better atmosphere of confidence."

Bush says he may have 'overstated' in Iraq denial

WASHINGTON (AP) — President George Bush said Thursday he may have "overstated it" when he asserted in the final presidential debate that no U.S. technology was used in Iraq's nuclear weapons development programme.

The government is investigating U.S.-made equipment found at nuclear development sites in Iraq, as the issue of American support for Iraq before the Gulf war gains political momentum.

Mr. Bush said in the debate Monday that "there hasn't been one single scintilla of evidence that there's any U.S. technology involved in it." But the former head of the United Nations nuclear inspections team in Iraq disputed that statement.

"Maybe I overstated it a little bit," Mr. Bush said in a CBS-TV interview Thursday.

"Now, if somebody illegally has moved some (technology) without the knowledge of the U.S. government, some foreign country or something, why, that would be an offense."

The equipment — an electron-

beam welding machine — was shipped to Iraq in 1988 under a Department of Commerce license that allowed it to be used only for general military purposes. United Nations inspectors found it after the Gulf war.

At the State Department, spokesman Richard Boucher denied Wednesday that the government had issued an export license for the welder, saying that it must have been "smuggled or illegally diverted to Iraq."

However, the Associated Press obtained a copy of the license, granted as part of the sales of high-technology items to Iraq from 1985 until the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait in August 1990.

The investigation of the electron-beam welder by the U.S. Customs Service, the Pentagon and the Department of Commerce began in the spring.

"We're investigation U.S.-sourced materials that were found in Iraq," Customs Service spokesman Ed Kittredge said in a telephone interview Wednesday. "It's an active investigation."

Municipality of Greater Amman
Amman Transport and Municipal
Development Project
(Loan No. 2334 — JO)
Reissue of Road Maintenance
Equipment Tender IFB 2/90

The Municipality of Greater Amman intends to apply part of the proceeds of the above mentioned loan for the reissue of road maintenance equipment tender which includes the following: Water Tanks, Dump Trucks, Vibratory Rollers, Road Milling Machine, Fuel Tank, Loaders, Crack Filling Machine, Road Marking Machine, Bitumen Distributor & Tanker.

Tender documents will be available as of October 24, 1992 for a non-refundable fee of (JD 160) one hundred sixty JD for each set form;

Municipality of Greater Amman, Tenders Department

P.O.Box 132, Amman - Jordan
Tel: 21969 AMCITY JO, fax: 649420

Companies that participated in above mentioned tender can obtain the tender documents at no fee.

Closing date for accepting the bids is 10:00 hours November 23, 1992 at the same address mentioned above.

A bank guarantee as a bid bond is a must for accepting the bids amounting to (5 %) of the total bid value and all bidders must comply fully with page (39) of the tenders documents in order for their bids to be accepted.

All bids will be opened publicly on the same closing date at 12:00 hours.



Under the patronage of their Royal Highnesses Prince Faisal Al-Hussein and princess Alia Al-Faisal. The «PROMISE» Welfare Society, will be holding a «Finland in Jordan» night introducing the top Finnish houses of fashion and their famous models to the Jordanian public. The number one Finnish singer «ARJA KORISEVA» will live the occasion; So join us to give our Finnish friends a warm reception by attending either:

The Dinner at 8:30 OR The afternoon tea at 4:30
on Tuesday Oct. 27th at the «Nabatean» room at Amra Hotel. on Wed. Oct. 28th at The «Nabatean» Room at Amra Hotel

For tickets and further information please contact the «PROMISE» center Tel: (817723) between 9 and 2 in the morning.

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 7311-19

PROGRAMME TWO
18:00 Au Cuir de Lune
18:05 Les Aventures de Boco
18:30 Operation Mozart
19:00 News in French
19:15 Penetre sur
19:30 News in Hebrew
20:30 News in Arabic
20:30 America's funniest Home Videos
21:00 Perspectives
22:00 News in English
22:30 Feature Film: "Into the Red Sea"

PRAYER TIMES

04:23 Fajr
05:40 (Sunrise) Duha
11:28 Dhuhr
14:38 'Asr
17:08 Maghrib
18:17 Isha

CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church Swedisch, Tel. 810740
Assemblies of God Church, Tel. 62785.
St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590.
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 637440.
De la Salle Church Tel. 661757
Terrence Church Tel. 622366

Church of the Annunciation Tel. 623541.
Anglican Church Tel. 630851. Tel. 628543.
Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771331.
Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 772561.
St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751.
Armenian International Church Tel. 683326.
Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 811295.
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tel. 623824, 654932.
Church of Nazareth Tel. 675691.

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.
A rise in temperatures will take place and winds will be westerly moderate. In Amman, which will be northerly moderate and sea calm.

Min./Max. temp.
Amman 14 / 29
Aqaba 20 / 33
Desert 10 / 31
Jordan Valley 20 / 33
Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 28, Aqaba 31. Humidity readings: Amman 25 per cent, Aqaba 41 per cent.

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:

Dr. Hama Mansour 750197
Dr. Youssef Samout 615648
Dr. Walid Miski 675485
Dr. Abdul Hadi Tadin 620115
Firas pharmacy 661912
Perdows pharmacy 783536
Al Aqaba pharmacy 670305
Nairoba pharmacy 623672
Al Salama pharmacy 636730
Yacoub pharmacy 644945
Shumaila pharmacy 637660
Najbi pharmacy 847632

IRBID:

Dr. Mohammad Sharara 273610
Al Shamsa pharmacy 275825

ZARQA:

Dr. Issa Omari 901266
Rami pharmacy 995119

KARAK:

Dr. Ahmad Mahabid
Mahabid pharmacy 32170

SALT:

Dr. Abdul Raqq Essour
Bar's pharmacy (—)

EMERGENCIES

Food Control Centre 637111
Civil Defence Department 661111
Civil Defence Immediate
Rescue 630341
Civil Defence Emergency 199
Rescue Police 192, 621111, 637777
Fire Brigade 891228
Blood Bank 775121
Highway Police 843402
Traffic Police 896390
Public Security Department 63021
Head Complaints 603500
Price Complaints 661170
Water and Sewerage 897467
Amman Municipality 787111
Telephone Information (directory assistance) 121
Overseas Calls 010230
Central Amman Telephone 623101
Abdali Telephone Repairs 661101
Jordan Television 731111

RADIO JORDAN

774111
Water Authority 680100
Jordan Electricity Authority 815615
Electric Power
Company 636381
RJ Flight Information 06-53200
Queen Alia Int. Airport 06-53200

HOSPITALS

AMMAN:
Hussein Medical Centre 81381332
Khalid Maternity, J. Amn 642816
Khalid Maternity, J. Amn 642412
Jabal Al-Nafes Maternity 642362
Mafes, J. Amman 636140
Palestine, Shumaila 6641714
Shumaila Hospital 669131
University Hospital 845845
Al-Munaster Hospital 6672279
The Islamic, Abdali 6651277
Al-Ahli, Abdali 6641646
Italian, Al-Mahajra 77101/3
Al-Bashir, J. Ashraf 77511126
Amay, Marfa 89161/175
Queen Alia Hospital 6024059
Amn Hospital 674135
ZARQA:
Zarqa Govt. Hospital (09)983323
Zarqa National Hospital (09)900580
Ibn Sina Hospital (09)987532

AL HILAN MODERN HOSPITAL

(09) 999990
Jahat:
Pharmas Basma Hospital (02)275555
Greek Catholic Hospital (02)272775
Ibn Al Nafes Hospital (02)247100
AQABA:
Princess Haya Hospital (03)314111

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (02)5220-5, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

06:00 Jakarta, Singapore (RJ)
06:45 New Delhi (RJ)
09:15 Dhahran (RJ)
09:30 Damascus (RJ)
09:30 Karachi, Dubai (RJ)

DEPARTURES

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

06:15 Beirut (RJ)
06:45 Amsterdam, New York (RJ)
11:00 Istanbul (RJ)
11:45 Paris, Brussels (RJ)
11:55 Geneva, Madrid (RJ)
12:05 Cairo (RJ)
12:45 London (RJ)
13:30 Bahrain, Doha (RJ)
13:45 Larnaca (RJ)
13:50 Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ)

Other Flights (Terminal 2)

06:25 Cyprus (CY)

MARKET PRICES

Upper/lower price in file per kg.

Apple (red) 500 / 450
Banana 450 / 400
Banana (Mukammal) 450 / 400
Beans 400 / 350
Cabbage 150 / 100
Carrot 450 / 300
Cauliflower 350 / 250
Cucumbers (large) 120 / 80
Cucumbers (small) 250 / 200
Eggplant 240 / 200
Garlic 620 / 500
Lemon 220 / 160
Marrow (large) 140 / 80
Marrow (small) 200 / 200
Onion (green) 320 / 250
Onion (dry) 180 / 120
Pepper (hot) 220 / 140
Pepper (sweet) 150 / 100
Potato 340 / 250
Tomato 360 / 300
Fig 100 / 50
Guava 450 / 350
Black Grapes 470 / 350
Green Grapes 470 / 350
Olive 500 / 400
Pomegranate 350 / 250
Spinach 250 / 200

Report says Israel expropriated 4m dunums since 1967

AMMAN (Petra) — The Israeli authorities have expropriated 3,942,654 dunums of land from Arab owners since its occupation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip in 1967, according to the monthly report issued by the Foreign Ministry's Palestinian Affairs Department.

The report said that Israel was continuing to build settlements in the occupied Arab territories and continued in carrying out its schemes aimed at settling new immigrants in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

It said the Israeli housing ministry, the lands department and societies which carry out the task of settling immigrants have been violating procedures related to the purchase of lands and properties in occupied Jerusalem, and have been forging documents to seize Palestinian property in the Holy city.

A report by an Israeli committee set up to investigate this issue revealed that funds by the Israeli government were used to rent houses owned by Palestinians, renovate them and then declare them as government property.

A 1950 Israeli law issued in this regard allows taking over and managing the property of Palestinians who fled their homeland in the 1948 war. This law was active-

King offers continued support to NHF

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein has voiced his deep satisfaction with the achievement of the Noor Al Hussein Foundation (NHF), noting that the foundation has been instrumental through its various programmes in providing a better life to Jordanian society.

In a message to Her Majesty Queen Noor, following a visit to the NHF's premises King Hussein said that he was happy to examine the achievements and the continued efforts of the foundation to offer vital services to the Jordanians in various areas.

"I am pleased to express my deep satisfaction over the most prominent role played by the NHF in promoting health, education, culture and other endeavours in society through its vast programmes aimed at socio-economic development," said King Hussein.

The King thanked the NHF for its work and expressed his continued support to its efforts.

Upon his visit to the NHF Wednesday the King was briefed on various programmes and projects carried out by the Foundation in Jordan. The King was told that the NHF has extended assistance to over 2,000 craftsmen in craft design in opening markets for their products. The foundation currently operates the 35 projects and programmes in four major areas: family and community, culture and heritage, children and education and continues to help ensure self-help and self-management by various communities.

47 years of the U.N. celebrated today

AMMAN (J.T.) — The world community today (Saturday) observes United Nations day, celebrating the 47th anniversary of the establishment of the organisation.

In a statement on the eve of the anniversary, William Draper, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) administrator, said that the event coincides with many important changes and reforms currently underway to revitalise the world organisation.

"The U.N. is now playing a stronger role than ever in resolving the global environmental crisis," noted Mr. Draper. "It is devising ways and means to invigorate and improve work in social and economic development," he said "and the organisation was now gearing up for three major world conferences on human rights (1993), population (1994) and women (1995)."

He noted that the UNDP was continuing to provide technical assistance in support of the democratic process and economic revitalisation in numerous countries. "The UNDP must increase its support to countries as they move to offer their people choices in political, social, economic and environmental fields to enable every person to take full advantage of the new opportunities available," he said.

To mark the occasion, a ceremony was held at the offices of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) in Amman on Thursday. Her Royal Highness Prin-



Princess Basma and Dr. Abdel Jaber on the eve of U.N. day at the ESCWA offices in Amman (Petra photo)

cess Basma, who stood in for His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan at the meeting, delivered a key-note address noting that Jordan takes pride in the presence of various U.N. agencies which have been striving to advance the principles and ideals of the United Nations.

The Princess said that King has been an excellent example of partnership with the United Nations. "We have been committed to do our part in advancing the cause of peace, security development and stability at all levels, national regional and international," the Princess noted.

"The United Nations was established 47 years ago to maintain world peace and security following the second world war," she said.

Jordan, she added, is also working wholeheartedly as party in the Middle East process talks to achieve a just and comprehensive settlement in accordance with the U.N. Charter and Resolutions. "If this process is to yield fruit it would be a major breakthrough in the economic and social cooperation of the whole region," Princess Basma added.

ESCWA Executive Secretary Tayseer Abdel Jaber who also gave a speech at the ceremony voiced the U.N.'s appreciation of Jordan's cooperation with U.N. agencies. In his address Dr. Abdel Jaber said the U.N. has a new opportunity to strengthen its role in promoting regional and

international peace and security. "However, concerns of the developing countries should continue to be addressed as priority items on the international agenda," he said.

The process of restructuring the U.N. system which was initiated early this year, specifically aims at improving the efficiency and cost effectiveness of the system and at institutionalising better coordination among its agencies and offices," Dr. Abdel Jaber noted. "In our region," the U.N. involvement has been pivotal from the first years of its establishment and the question of Palestine has continued to be on the U.N. agenda. We took to the ongoing peace negotiations launched in Madrid a year ago with hope for permanent peace in the region," he said.

Dr. Abdel Jaber read out a letter from Boutros Boutros Ghali U.N. Secretary General said: "My message on U.N. day is one of hope. Despite the news of wars, hunger, homelessness and disease affecting millions, the world is moving towards a new more participatory people-centred way of conducting international affairs."

"For too many people, particularly those living in countries of transition, this is a time of turbulence and uncertainty. On this day let us dedicate ourselves anew to the U.N. Charter. Let each of us ask what we can do to confirm the U.N., mankind's best hope for the future."

Jordanian travellers claim harassment at Egyptian ports

By Khalid S. Al-Qudab
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Jordanian travellers to Egypt are being mistreated by the Egyptian border authorities because of the close links Jordan has with Iraq, claim parliamentary deputies, newspaper columnists and travellers.

"The Egyptian authorities at Nweibeh recently made me spend a whole summer day in the air because I had an Iraqi stamp on my passport," said one case a 60-year-old man who travelled to Egypt last September.

The traveller told the Jordan Times that he had previously inquired from the Egyptian embassy in Amman concerning his visit to Egypt. "The embassy assured me that they wouldn't mind passports being marked with an Iraqi visa-stamp. 'We are all Arabs' they told me," the traveller said.

"When arriving at the port, the authorities questioned me and took my passport. They then held me along with other Jordanians in barren rooms and parlours lacking the least essential utilities," he continued.

The traveller, who didn't wish to be named, added that "one police officer asked me for some money for the photocopying of some pages of the passport."

"The next day we were sent back to Jordan on the same ferry," he said.

A columnist from Shehan newspaper, Jihad Jebarah, criticised the Egyptian authorities for the alleged mistreatment of Jordanians and said Egypt had traditionally good relations with its Arab neighbours.

Complaining about the hardship that Jordanians face at ports, Jebarah told the Jordan Times that "so many people have frequented the newspaper over this issue that I deeply sympathise with misery."

Amman Deputy Fakhri Kassar told the Jordan Times that he was aware of the situation and that he recently forwarded a memorandum in this regard to the foreign minister. Mr. Kassar said that Jordanians travelling to Egypt have been treated badly because of their nationality. "Questions about the traveller's having been to Iraq take up most of the time spent at the ports. Expired passports are also demanded by the Egyptian authorities to check whether the traveller had previously been in Iraq or not," Mr. Kassar said.

"All Jordanian regular passport holders are hindered, secluded or expelled if they had sometimes visited Iraq. The discrimination is also based on whether the travellers are Jordanian or Palestinian by birth. We all know that the shipping company by which most of our passengers travel is owned by Jordan, Iraq and Egypt," he said.

"Non-Arabs are accorded more hospitality than Jordanians. Moreover, the travellers to Egypt do not know about politics or even the current affairs of the world. It is a moody and temporary matter that Arab governments treat their citizens according to the latest several months policy in the state, Mr. Kassar added.

M. Kassar concluded that a high-ranking official in the Foreign Ministry had assured him that the Egyptian embassy had knowledge of the matter and that they promised to remedy the situation.

200 jog in Terry Fox Run

By Lancy Salisbury
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — About 200 hundred runners huffed and puffed Friday in Jordan's first-ever Terry Fox Run for Cancer Research, named after the cancer-stricken Canadian who in 1980 began a run across his country to raise money, and awareness of cancer worldwide.

The runners jogged 7.2 kms across Abdoun, raising more than JD-3,000 for the Jordan Cancer Society which carries out research into breast cancer in Jordan, said to afflict more than 300 women annually.

The Canadian embassy-hosted event was a "great success," said embassy public relations officer David Allin. "Cancer is a topic people have difficulty discussing. Terry Fox was known in Canada and helped people come to terms with cancer. His spirit is now working its way here," Mr. Allin said.

Terry Fox died June 28, 1981. Since 1980, the run has raised more than US \$100 million for cancer research.

In Jordan, the funds will support research into the growing rate of breast cancer among women in Jordan, which occurs at a relatively young age compared to their counterparts in industrialised countries.

Crown Prince

(Continued from page 1)

head of the EC commission in Brussels Jacques Delors the Middle East peace process and possibility of strengthening the European role in the process. Prince Hassan outlined Jordan's economic burdens caused by the massive migrations.

Prince Hassan was received in an audience Friday by King Baudouin of Belgium.

Prince Hassan and Princess Sarvath later attended a dinner banquet hosted in their honour by the Belgian monarch.

Interviewed by Jordan Television, Prince Hassan said his visit to the United States and Belgium was aimed at reiterating the prin-

ciple Jordanian position towards the Middle East problem. He noted that Jordan's position is based on international legitimacy just as the other Arab positions.

Prince Hassan said a period of relaxation could be in the offing after the U.S. presidential elections and certain issues could be marginalised to give way to other issues on the international agenda.

He stressed the importance of the moves on the European arena, as well as others, particularly those hosting the multilateral meetings.

Asked how he saw the public opinion in America concerning the peace process, Prince Hassan said that people clearly disting-

uish between the right and wrong when it comes to the Middle East problems. People have genuine desire to understand the issues of the region, he said.

Princess Sarvath Friday visited a special education school for children with learning difficulties. The Princess toured the school's various sections and was familiarised with scientific and educational methods used by the school to address children's educational problems.

Princess Sarvath visited a similar school Thursday. The Princess called on officials at the two schools to benefit Jordan from their experience in special education fields.

Israel says Syria must move first

(Continued from page 1)

heart of the issue, the heart of the matter between our two countries, the essence of peace, security and the territory dimension."

Mr. Rabin previously has said Israel was prepared to approach the Golan issue within the context of U.N. Security Council Resolution 242, which calls for territorial withdrawal in exchange for peace. The new papers read to the Syrians Wednesday apparently went a little further in spelling that out.

But Mr. Allaf said the Israelis were trying "to convey the same ideas we have heard in the past in

a more positive manner."

He said there were essential elements of the Israeli position, particularly the linking of withdrawal and Israeli security concerns, "that are still completely unsatisfactory."

Mr. Allaf said the Israelis did not bring up any suggestions of a partial withdrawal or setting up a "security zone" in the Golan, ideas Syria has rejected.

The talks with Syria appeared to be on a faster track than those with the Palestinians.

The Palestinians are demanding that Resolution 242 also apply to the West Bank and Gaza. Israel has refused, saying at this stage it was only talking

about Palestinian self-government under Israeli rule. The dispute slowed the pace of negotiations in the last round, which ended Sept. 24.

Dr. Abdel Shaif said after the opening day that his delegation was still trying to reach an understanding on implementation of the U.N. resolution.

Israel wants to hold elections in May for an administrator to run the day-to-day affairs of the occupied territories. The Palestinians have proposed more ambitious plans, seeking election of a legislative body that Israel says would be tantamount to laying the foundation of Palestinian independence.

HOME NEWS IN BRIEF

King sends cable to Zambia

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Friday sent a cable to Zambian President Frederick D. Chiluba congratulating him on his country's national day. The King wished the president continued good health and happiness and the Zambian people further progress and prosperity.

Premier meets Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker Thursday visited the Armed Forces headquarters, where he discussed with Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Field Marshal Fathi Abu Taleb issues of interest to the Armed Forces.

Jordan Uni. hosts conference on biology

AMMAN (J.T.) — Upto 250 delegates from Arab and foreign countries are gathering in Amman today (Saturday) for a five-day conference on biology which is to be held at the University of Jordan. According to Abdul Kazzaz Takieddin, president of the Jordanian Society for Biological Sciences (JSBS) which is organising the meetings, 220 research papers will be reviewed by the delegates representing institutions in 13 nations including Jordan. He said that the session will include the following topics: Microbiology, botany, physiology, parasitology, genetics and ecology.

Russian delegation leaves for Damascus

AMMAN (J.T.) — An eight-member Russian parliamentary delegation left Amman for Damascus Friday on their way back home at the end of a visit to Jordan. The visit has involved meetings on trade and other issues with Jordanian officials, and on Thursday they discussed with Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker the Middle East question and means of bolstering Jordanian-Russian relations in all fields.

Travel agents come to Jordan for educational tour

AMMAN — The Philadelphia Int'l Hotel and the Holiday Int'l Hotel Aqaba in coordination with World Travel will receive this week an educational tour organised by Bruno Coser which includes twenty travel agents that visit Jordan for promotion in Italy.

WHAT'S GOING ON

- ★ Exhibition of paintings and sculptures by artist Nadeem at the French Cultural Centre.
- ★ Exhibition of oil and watercolour paintings entitled "Concepts in the Structure of Space" by Dr. George Sayegh at Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation Gallery — (Open 10 a.m. till 5 p.m.)
- ★ Exhibition by Jordanian artist Khaled Khreis at the Spanish Cultural Centre.
- ★ Exhibition of paintings by Jordanian artist Ibrahim Al Shalabi at Alfa Art Gallery.
- ★ Photography exhibition of Petra at the Amman Marriott Hotel.

German week begins at the Marriott

THE Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany in cooperation with Lufthansa German Airlines has organised a German Week that will be held in the Marriott Hotel from 26 till 30 October.

This will entail a trade show which will feature a variety of consumer goods made in Germany, such as automobiles, household appliances, video and audio electronics, German delicacies and other products displayed by 26 exhibitors in the hotel's lobby.

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

The Italian embassy announces meeting opportunities in Italy for selected Jordanian companies:

- Turin: November 4-8, "Meeting Point" at G. Angelli Pavillon for new advanced technology exhibitors (limited entry tickets available at Italian Embassy: Tel. 638185, ext. 715, 726, 732);
- Bari: December 3-4, "Europartenariat meeting" with south Italy's various companies (textiles and clothes, wood and furniture, alimentary and mechanical: further information has been given to Jordanian Trade Chambers and Industrial Associations).

FOR RENT

Modern offices/Firas Circle Jabal Hussein Luxurious office building of six floors

238 sq. m/flr. can accommodate one or two offices/flr.

Open space to suit tenant

15 tel. lines/floor central audio/video sys.
180 fully integ. telecom. data & elect. outlets/flr.
Comprehensive fire alarm/fire fighting sys.
Fully integrated area controlled airconditioning/ heating (HVAC) sys.
Double glazing windows/tented & with special locks carefully designed energy saving electrical units fully carpeted/Alphacoustic suspended ceiling.

For further information, please contact landlord at
Tel.: 690000 or 696969, fax: 690011

GOURMET
CHEESES
COLD CUTS
CRACKERS
SWEETS
DELIGHTFUL
ASSORTMENT

GOODIES - AL AMER CENTRE,
SHMEISANI NEAR BUSINESS BANK
TELEPHONE 696969

GOING BEYOND

In addition to
Stairmasters,
Lifecycles
& Liferowers,

Power Hut

Introduces
Aerobics,
Calisthenics
& Dance
Classes

6 days a week
from 8:00 a.m.
to 10:00 p.m.
Fridays:
from 10:00 a.m.
to 6:00 p.m.

Power Hut
HEALTH CLUB

For further information
call 686349

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation. Established 1975.

الصحف الأردنية المستقلة المنشورة بالإنجليزية من قبل المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية

Chairman of the Board of Directors:

MAHMOUD AL KAYED

Director General:

MOHAMMAD AMAD

Editor-in-Chief:

GEORGE S. HAWATMEH

Editorial and advertising offices:

Jordan Press Foundation,

University Road, P.O. Box 6710, Amman, Jordan.

Telephones: 667171/6, 670141-4

Telex: 21497 ALRAI JO

Facsimile: 661242

The Jordan Times is published daily except Fridays.

Subscription and advertising rates are available from the Jordan Times advertising department.

The Clinton factor

THE SEVENTH round of peace talks in Washington is off to an interesting start with Israel again appearing to accord Syria the most attention in a bid to make progress on that front. Such progress, Israelis could be thinking, could open other avenues for agreements in other negotiating tracks affecting the Palestinians, Jordanians and Lebanese.

Yet any sense of optimism is overshadowed by the U.S. presidential elections due to be held on Nov. 3. The probable change of leadership in Washington may end up making the peace talks uneventful in terms of breakthroughs or achievements. Both sides of the negotiating equation must be perusing the elections with great deal of attention and concern.

The Israeli side may draw comfort from the projected election of Bill Clinton as the next president of the U.S. and this satisfaction may result in hardening the overall Israeli posture vis-a-vis the peace process. The Arab side, on the other hand, cannot be as sanguine about chances of Clinton's election since his party's platform is definitely more pro-Israel than the Republican's. Translated into new negotiating terms, the removal of incumbent President Bush from the international and American scene could lead to the weakening of the Arab negotiating position. Should the worse come to the worst, the Arab side may be forced to either make additional concessions or forsake the negotiating process altogether. But withdrawal from the peace talks cannot be exercised with ease. All the concerned Arab leaderships would then have to reckon with new circumstances in the region touching on the security and stability of their own countries.

This is obviously alarming since the demise of the peace process would inevitably lead to extremism on both sides of the fence dividing the Arab World from Israel and to the deepening of chaos and insecurity. The climate of instability cannot be expected to be confined to the immediate Arab parties concerned with the peace process but can be projected to spread in due course to the rest of the region. Ironically the ultimate saviour of the peace process on the Arab-Israeli conflict and the stability and security of the Middle East could then be Clinton himself after seeing that blanket support for Israel would have implications for the rest of the region and on a scale that would affect the standing and interests of the U.S. and its principal allies. There is hope therefore that Clinton's pro-Israel rhetoric could remain just rhetoric, nothing more and nothing less.

The hard realities of the Middle East, including the fact that it remains a prime source of energy to the West, can therefore be expected to bend the Clinton bias towards Israel and tilt it instead in the same direction as the negotiations are taking. Such a development would be welcome news to all the region's parties genuinely interested in the promotion and protection of the U.S.-brokered peace process. Should this be the outcome, despair may turn into optimism and the election of Clinton would turn into a positive factor rather than be the feared negative element that it could be.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

AL RA'I Arabic daily described an expected tour of the Arab states by King Hassan II of Morocco as timely and bearing a great significance. The tour comes at a time when the relations among Arab states are at their lowest levels, damaging the Arab national interest, the paper said. The king's tour coincides with the resumption of the Arab-Israeli peace negotiations in Washington which the Arabs are pursuing in order to ensure their legitimate rights at a time when the Arab states lack the proper mechanism to defend themselves, the paper continued. Jordan welcomes the tour as a means of helping the Arabs to reconcile and to chart collective plans, helping them to recover their lost territory and rights, said the daily. This country has been striving to establish solidarity among Arab states based on strong brotherly ties and catering to serve the higher Arab interests, it added. The paper voiced Jordan's deep welcome of such an endeavour on the part of the Moroccan monarch, hoping that Arab countries would give King Hassan all possible support and assistance because it is a step leading towards solidarity without which the Arab countries have no hope of ever regaining their lost territory.

A COLUMNIST in Al Ra'i Arabic daily presented a set of proposals which, he said, are needed by all government departments so that public administration work can be improved. Faysal Rabie' said that each ministry and public administration office ought to rely on documented information and data by employing up-to-date facilities which can give particulars about persons, issues, organisations and others. The writer suggested that the Prime Ministry should have a summary of all functions conducted by each ministry, that Jordanian universities document such information and that Parliament members and other notables have access to the various information. The writer said that concerned departments ought to classify and document information which could be needed by researchers in various fields of knowledge so that other government departments can benefit from the data in the course of conducting their own functions. He said a data bank, providing information to all, should serve as an essential element for the success of any public organisation. Such information, said the writer, can help other government departments carry out their work efficiently and deal with all citizens in a fair and acceptable manner.

Storm over economy batters Britain's political leaders

By Allan Barker

LONDON — Britain's economic ills, which have defied a host of Westminster big names over the years, are blowing chill winds these days around the heads of Prime Minister John Major and his finance minister, Norman Lamont.

As a deep recession pushes unemployment to 10.1 per cent, the highest in five years; members of parliament, financial markets and national newspapers clamour for "leadership" and a fresh economic policy to ease the pain and restore confidence.

Government ministers, blown off course by sterling's humiliating exit from the European Exchange Rate Mechanism (ERM) a month ago, say it is not only Britain that is suffering but the rest of the world too and plead for patience and long-term, non-inflationary solutions to stem company failures and job losses.

In the 1970s, under Edward Heath, Harold Wilson and James Callaghan, the country went on to a three-day work week because of a coalmine strike, suffered an inflationary surge, a stock market slump and a strike-filled 1979 winter of discontent.

Margaret Thatcher's government survived a severe recession in 1981 and introduced free-market policies that were hailed as the "Thatcher miracle". But the boom that lasted into the late 1980s ended in overheating of the economy and inflation, and Britain went into recession before other countries did.

When Mrs. Thatcher was forced from power two years ago, Mr. Major moved from finance minister to prime minister, and won a fourth five-year term for the Conservatives last April.

A brave experiment of tying Britain into the European currency grid based on the German mark to get a low-inflation, competitive economy began in October 1990. But this year German interest rates soared to combat inflation caused by unification and put Britain in a straitjacket. The ERM strained at the seams and the pound rose to \$2, hurting exports to the U.S. market.

Critics say Britain went into the

ERM at too high a rate — 2.95 marks — for which they blame poor judgment by Mr. Major (then finance minister). They also say Britain should have devalued when speculative pressures built up, as Italy did.

Instead, Britain tried to bluff it out, only to be overwhelmed by the weight of money flooding out of the pound on "black Wednesday", September 16. During that day, interest rates were raised to 15 per cent, then cut to 10 per cent as Britain left the system. Sterling has since fallen 12 per cent.

"We should not have joined the ERM and we should have left it earlier," said John Townend, head of the Conservative back-bench Finance Committee.

The base interest rate is now eight per cent after two post-ERM one-point cuts, the latest on Friday that was widely seen as a political gesture after a grim week in which the government ran into heavy criticism over its sudden plans to do away with 31 coal mines and 30,000 pit jobs.

Chancellor of the Exchequer Lamont is discredited while Mr. Major has been called out of touch and lacking tough leadership qualities. A newspaper cartoonist depicted the pair crouching under fire in a World War I trench with Mr. Lamont saying, "well if you know of a better 'ole, go to it."

"The prime minister is wandering around as though he expects the tooth fairy to sort out the economy," commented Labour Party employment spokesman Frank Dobson before the latest rate cut.

Mr. Lamont, switching from an exchange-rate policy to a monetary one after the ERM debacle, has set a target of one to four per cent inflation, which will need a tight hand on public spending and maybe a holddown on public-sector pay rises.

"The UK has not enjoyed price stability for more than a generation," Mr. Lamont said in a recent policy paper. "Now is the time to make a conclusive break to permanent lower inflation."

Some members of parliament

fear Mr. Lamont is fighting the wrong war and they would like him replaced with a new face.

With unemployment still rising inexorably — one in 10 of the work force is jobless and there may be no letup until 1994, say analysts — the government may be tempted to follow the U.S. example and go for growth, boosting exports with a lower pound.

The catch is that Britain is more dependent on imports than the U.S. economy and if the markets were to desert sterling after deep rate cuts, inflation would rise dangerously.

Writing in the Times, political columnist Peter Riddell said: "to avoid the fate of an Anthony Eden, Mr. Major not only has to take a grip over economic policy but to be seen to be delivering the smack of firm government." Eden succeeded Winston Churchill in the 1950s but was humiliated by the Suez crisis.

Mr. Major also has to grapple with Britain's future relations with the rest of the European Community. Two weeks ago at the party conference he won backing for the Maastricht Treaty negotiated last December for an economic and monetary union by the end of the century — despite fears by a Thatcherite minority that it will submerge Britain in a federal Europe.

Although many Britons are suspicious of the threat to national heritage posed by transfers of power to Brussels, Mr. Major and Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd have marshalled broad support for the view that the country would surrender influence and become an economic backwater if it stood aside from Europe.

Nevertheless, Mr. Major faces a long, hard fight to get the Maastricht Treaty through parliament early next year, even though it has the support of the opposition Labour leadership.

If Maastricht is rejected it would sweep away another vital plank of his policy and make it difficult for him and his government to stay in power, most commentators believe. *Reuter*

He returned 'with more courage to go on fighting'

By Rigoberta Menchu

I AM a native of the Quiche people of Guatemala. My life has been a long one. Things have happened to me as in a movie.

My parents were killed in the repression. I have hardly any relatives living. It has been the lot of many, many Guatemalans.

We were a very poor family. My parents worked cutting cotton, cutting coffee. Two of my brothers died on the plantation. One of them got sick and died. The other died when the landowner ordered cotton sprayed while we were in the field. My brother was poisoned and we buried him on the plantation.

My father was a catechist, and in Guatemala a catechist is a leader of the community, preaching the Gospel. We began to evolve in the Catholic religion and became catechists.

We grew up — and really you can't say we started fighting only a short time ago, because it has been 22 years since my father fought over the land. The landowners wanted to take away our little bit of land, and so my father fought for it. He went to speak with the mayors and judges in various parts of Guatemala.

For many years he was tricked, because he did not speak Spanish. None of us spoke Spanish. So they made my father travel all over to sign papers, letters, telegrams, which meant that not only he but the whole community had to sacrifice to pay the expenses.

My father was imprisoned many times. First he was accused of causing unrest among the population. When he was in jail, the army kicked us out of our houses. They burned our clay pots. It was really hard for us to understand this situation.

Then my father was sentenced to 18 years in prison, but we were able to work with lawyers to get him released. After a year and two months, he returned home with more courage to go on fighting and angrier because of what had happened.

A short time later he was tortured by the landowners' bodyguards. Some armed men took him away. We found him lying in

the road, about two kilometres from home, barely alive. The priests had come out to take him to the hospital.

He had been in the hospital for six months when he heard he was going to be taken out and killed. The landowners had been discussing it loudly. We had to find a private clinic so he would heal.

In 1977 my father was in jail again. The military told us it didn't want us to see him, because he had committed many crimes. From lawyers we learned he was going to be executed. Many union workers, students, peasants and some priests demonstrated.

"The army had pulled my little brother's fingernails out, cut off parts of his ears and other parts of his body, his lips, and he was covered with scars and swollen all over."

My father was freed, but he was told he was going to be killed for being a communist. In 1979, five armed men, their faces covered, kidnapped one of my little brothers. He was 16.

Since my father couldn't go out, we went with my mother and members of the community to make a complaint to the army, but they said they didn't know anything. We went to City Hall, to all the jails in Guatemala. My mother was very upset. It had taken a lot for my brother to survive, and so it was very hard to accept his disappearance.

At that time the army published a bulletin saying that they had some guerrillas in their custody and that they were going to

punish them in public. My mother said: "I hope to God my son is there. I want to know what has happened to him."

We walked for one day and almost the whole night to get to the town. Hundreds of soldiers had gathered the people to witness what they were going to do. After a while a truck arrived with 20 people who had been tortured in different ways.

Among them we recognised my brother. We had to calm my mother down, telling her that if she gave herself away she was going to die right there for being family of a guerrilla.

We were crying, but almost all the rest of the people were crying also at the sight of the tortured people. The army had pulled my little brother's fingernails out, cut off parts of his ears and other parts of his body, his lips, and he was covered with scars and swollen all over.

Among the prisoners was a woman and parts of her breasts and other parts of her body were cut off.

An army captain gave a very long speech, saying that if we got involved with communism the same things would happen to us. Then he explained the various types of torture they had applied to the prisoners.

After three hours, the officer ordered the troops to strip the prisoners and said, "Part of the punishment is still to come."

He ordered them tied to some posts. The people didn't know what to do and my mother was overcome with despair. And none of us knew how we could bear the situation. The officer ordered the prisoners covered with gasoline and they set fire to them, one by one.

The writer received the Nobel Peace Prize last week for her fight on behalf of Indians and human rights in Guatemala. This text is adapted from an autobiographical chapter in "You Can't Drown the Fire: Latin American Women Writing in Exile," published in 1989. The article is reprinted from The New York Times.

Dr. Swee Chai Ang — a story of human abnegation

By Pascal B. Karmy

I once paid tribute to Dr. Pauline Cutting for her services to the Palestinian refugees of Sabra and Shatilla during unhuman circumstances resulting from Lebanese Amal militia siege of the camps in 1987.

By the same token I wish to raise my hat to Dr. Swee Chai Ang who is now in Amman, after her great services she rendered to the Palestinian refugees in Sabra and Shatilla camps during Israel's barbaric invasion of Beirut in 1982.

Dr. Swee was a familiar figure

in Beirut in those dark days and could be seen looking for survivors in those camps after the massacre.

She is the author of a well-known book entitled "From Beirut to Jerusalem — A Woman Surgeon with the Palestinians." In this book she relates the hardships and tribulations the Palestinian refugees had undergone during and after the Sabra and Shatilla massacre in 1982. She relates how, in conjunction with Palestinian doctors and medical staff and volunteers, she treated the sick and the wounded

and the dying without fear or favour.

Every Palestinian and every Arab should read this inspiring book so as to draw the necessary conclusions. One of the most important lessons that can be drawn from this book is that we should not let our people without armed protection against murderers such as those who committed Sabra and Shatilla's abhorrent massacres in Beirut in 1982 or those who previously committed Deir Yassin, Kafr Qassem, Qibya

and other massacres in Palestine in 1948 and thereafter.

Dr. Swee and her colleagues performed inestimable services to the Palestinians without expecting reward. The Arabs in general and the Palestinians in particular should support the services of brave women like Dr. Swee who volunteered to help our compatriots in their distress and tribulations.

Our men and women should emulate the example of Dr. Swee and her colleagues who worked in

appalling conditions in the camps under the cruel Israeli army occupying Beirut. What our compatriots require from us is not pity or commiseration but actual assistance and help, materially and financially, and of the calibre of Dr. Swee.

Dr. Swee and her colleagues and volunteers should be awarded the highest medal for their courage and abnegation. Indeed they are shining beams in a world sometimes darkened by cruelty.



Dr. Swee Chai Ang

THE WEEK IN PRINT

Arab coordination at peace talks is vital

Reviewed by Elia Nasrallah

Jordanian dailies in the past week gave prominence to the resumed Arab-Israeli peace process, the meeting in Amman of the foreign ministers of Arab countries involved in the talks, inter-Arab affairs and domestic issues.

A columnist in Al Ra'i daily said the Arab countries should not lose the present opportunity of holding peace talks despite the fact that peace is out of reach at the moment. Fahd Al Fanek said that the extremists among the Arabs, who urge their governments to pull out of the talks, are playing into Israeli hands, causing the world community to shift the blame for lack of settlement on the Arabs rather than the Israelis. Coordination among the Arab negotiators at the peace talks, said Saleh Ekour in Sawt al Shaab, is of paramount importance at this stage, which precedes the American presidential elections.

The writer said that the Arabs have to withstand any pressures from the Bush administration and refuse to give in to Israel's policies and views.

One means of exercising Arab pressure on Washington, the writer said, is to take a brave step towards ending the Arab World's embargo on Iraq, thus forcing the U.S. administration to respond favourably to Arab demands in the Middle East.

Referring to the meeting in Amman of the foreign ministers of Lebanon, Syria, Jordan,

Egypt and Palestine, Al Dustour daily said that the common stand constitutes a very strong trump card in the hands of the Arab negotiators in Washington. The daily said that the absence of an Israeli strategy for peace with the Arabs is also bound to strengthen the Arabs' position.

For Saleh Al Qallab, a columnist in Al Dustour, the present session in Washington is the most sensitive round of the talks between the Arabs and Israel. The writer said the session comes immediately before the U.S. presidential elections and the Arab parties are expecting further pressure from the Bush administration — on themselves rather than on Israel — to reach a settlement.

Mr. Bush is in real need for such a settlement to improve his image before the U.S. electorate and to win Jewish votes, added the writer.

Casting doubt on the outcome of the talks in Washington, a columnist in Al Ra'i said that the Israelis can not be serious about reaching a peaceful settlement with the Arabs nor are they expected to give the Palestinian people their rights.

Ibrahim Al Absi said that in the light of what is going on in Palestine and of the Israeli atrocities committed against the Palestinians, no one in his right mind could believe that progress towards peace can be achieved.

Referring to the situation in

Iraq in light of the U.N. inspection teams' missions there, Bader Abdul Haq, a columnist in Al Ra'i said one team of monsters after another comes to Iraq to destroy the scientific achievements of the Iraqi people and to help retain the present embargo which is depriving the Iraqi children of food.

The writer said that the U.N. Security Council is pursuing a course of deception, assisted in this evil practice by the U.N. inspection teams who are claiming that Iraq still possesses thousands of dangerous weapons.

Salameh Ekour, a writer in Sawt al Shaab, said that the delegates to the ongoing Arab political factions' conference in Baghdad should declare that the Arab and Islamic nations will put an end to the sanctions on Iraq and should follow their declaration by action.

Since the aim of this conference in Baghdad is to voice solidarity with the Iraqi people, the writer added, this is the right time for the Arabs and Muslims to end the sanctions on their brothers and sisters.

Referring to King Hassan of Morocco's tour of the Arab World, Al Dustour daily said that it was significant at this stage which witnesses deeply-rooted inter-Arab differences.

The paper said that the tour, coming in the wake of the Gulf crisis and the emergence of border disputes, should be seized by the Arab leaders as a

chance for seriously considering steps that can lead to a general reconciliation.

Taher Al Udwan, a columnist in Al Dustour, expressed his astonishment at a statement by the Arab League Secretary General Ismat Abdul Majed in which he opposed the convening of an Arab summit to end Arab-Arab differences. The writer said that a summit is badly needed to bridge the widening gap in Arab relations and to unify Arab ranks.

No solidarity among the Arab countries can be re-established without a meeting at the summit level, he added.

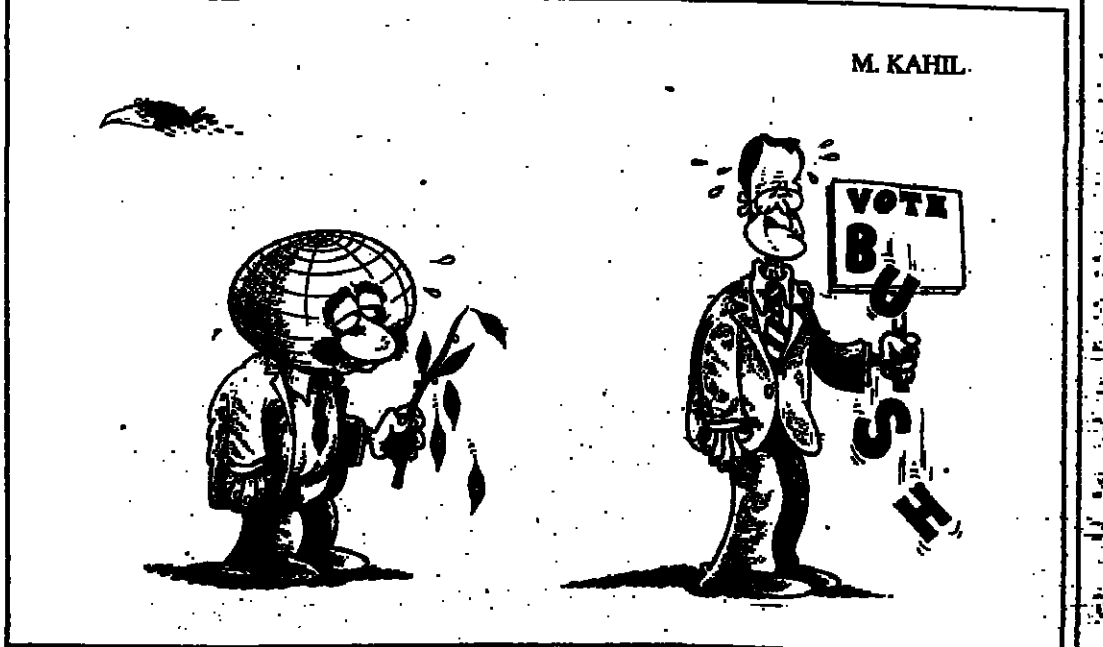
Turning to domestic affairs, Mohammad Shehri said that the Kingdom was in need of a task force, like the one building Al Amal Cancer Centre, to deal with the problem of unemployment which is causing a great deal of suffering for many Jordanians.

The scene of men and women, some of them handicapped, begging for food or seeing and hearing about robberies and thefts has become customary in Jordan largely due to the unemployment that is plaguing Jordanian society, said the writer.

There is no point in boasting about our security, democracy

and political parties at a time when the country is beset with this underlying disease, he added.

Another columnist, Ahmad Dabbas, called attention to the dangers to the public health caused by the "Pepsi pool" which is infested by insects and common flies and which gives off a bad smell, making the lives of the nearby residential areas very miserable. The writer said that a quick solution to this problem lies in the hands of the Pepsi factory which can stop the flow of its waste water in the nearby pool and divert it instead to the public sewers.



SPORTS NEWS IN BRIEF

Agassi turns down wild card

STOCKHOLM (AP) — Wimbledon champion Andre Agassi turned down a wild card for next week's Stockholm Open tennis tournament, organisers said. "Andre wanted to play, but he's playing an exhibition in Hong Kong until Sunday and it would be impossible for him to make it to Sweden in time for his first match," tournament director Johan Flink said. The other wild cards went to Swedes Thomas Enqvist, Magnus Gustafsson and Nicklas Kulti and Jonas Svensson. Jim Courier, the world's top-ranked player, will be the tournament's top-seed. The American has not played since the U.S. Open in September.

Marseille, Barcelona score wins

LONDON (AP) — Barcelona maintained its shaky hold on European soccer's Champions Cup with a 1-1 tie at CSKA Moscow after falling behind to the Russian team. Olympique Marseille, runner up two seasons ago, will expect to advance having returned from Romania with a goal-less tie with Dinamo Bucharest. Sparta Prague, which knocked Marseille out of the Champions Cup last season, looked set to eliminate defending champion Werder Bremen from the Cupwinners competition after scoring a 3-2 win.

English Derby winner sold to Japanese owner

LONDON (AP) — English Derby Winner Dr Devous has been sold for \$6 million to Japanese owner Zenya Yoshida, according to press reports. Yoshida, who bought Carroll House after he won the 1989 Prix De L'Arc de Triomphe, owned Britain's National Stud to purchase the horse from American Sidney Craig, the domestic news agency Press Association reported. The colt, trained by Peter Chapple-Hyam, is due to run in the Breeders' Cup turf next Saturday. He is also expected to contest the Japan Cup.

German soccer chiefs gets tougher on doping

BERLIN (R) — German soccer chiefs decided Friday to expand their doping-testing programme to friendly matches to stop players using performance-enhancing drugs in the run-up to a season. Several leading players, including former national team goalkeeper Toni Schumacher, have suggested in the past that drugs were being used in German soccer.

Italy's Kalambay retains European middleweight title

VERBANIA, Italy (R) — Italy's veteran Patrizio Sumbu Kalambay kept his world boxing title hopes alive when he outpointed Steve Collins of Ireland over 12 rounds Friday to retain his European middleweight crown. The 36-year-old, Zairean-born Kalambay was cut in the third round but never seriously stretched by his 28-year-old opponent. Collins, whose only two defeats in the 24 previous fights in his career had been in world title attempts, began the bout with an aggressive lunge straight from the bell, but fell behind on points later on.

Mansell quickest again in Japan

SUZUKA, Japan (R) — World champion-elect Nigel Mansell maintained his near-invincible form Friday when he claimed provisional pole position for Sunday's Japanese Grand Prix.

Briton mansell, who was comfortably quickest in the morning free session, stayed in the same groove in the afternoon in his Williams to finish up fastest ahead of his Italian team mate Riccardo Patrese.

Brazilian Ayrton Senna was third fastest in a McLaren ahead of his team mate, Australian Gerhard Berger, with German Michael Schumacher, in a Benetton, fifth and Briton Johnny Herbert, in a Lotus, sixth.

Mansell, driving with all his usual vim and determination, had a big spin early in the qualifying session when he went off the track but gathered his car back under control without any damage.

Several other drivers also spun on the bumpy figure-of-eight Suzuka circuit, including Briton Martin Brundle, who damaged his Benetton but escaped unhurt. Frenchman Jean Alesi in a

Ferrari and Jan Lammers of the Netherlands, returning to Formula One with March for the first time in a decade, touched at one point.

Mansell, who has already clinched this year's World Drivers' Championship, will be bidding to extend his record number of wins in a single season to 10 in Sunday's 53-lap race.

Mansell said: "That was an exciting session. I was very pleased with my fastest lap at the end in these conditions. It is windy and the track is bumpy and a lot of cars went off."

"I lost the car and went off backwards early on when I was passing a Ferrari. I just lost my rhythm briefly and put a wheel on one of the kerbs — it was interesting to say the least."

Mansell, who clocked one minute 37.360 seconds, ended more than eight-tenths of a second ahead of Patrese, who said his car had performed well "without any problems at all."

Brundle, who finished 13th, admitted his spin was in part due to the fact that he had been

feeling sick all day.

He said: "Thirteenth position sums it all up really. I felt fine this morning, but then something I ate left me feeling awful all day. At one point, it was doubtful if I would be fit for qualifying."

Senna set his time for third place in his space McLaren MP4/7, as his race car had an oil system failure during the morning.

He suggested, too, that he was not impressed with Honda's latest V12 engines developed for their final race on their home circuit before suspending their Formula One operation at the end of the year.

He said: "I hope that coming here we would have been able to close the gap on the Williams, but although the engines are running well they are not as quick as we expected."

"Their performance on the test bed does not seem to have been translated into improved track performance. I drove really hard and pushed beyond my own limit today."

Schumacher, who had a spin in the morning, said he tried everything he could to get a time in the



Nigel Mansell
afternoon including driving half on the grass. "But we were right on the limit," he said. "There was nothing left and we need a bit more grip."

NBA adopts new rules, appoints panel to explore expansion

NEW YORK (AP) — The National Basketball Association, which has added four teams since 1988, is looking at expansion again.

The NBA board of governors, in response to numerous inquiries by various cities in North America concerning the likelihood of expansion in the next several years, voted to appoint a committee to look into long-range expansion.

Commissioner David Stern said Phoenix Sun President Jerry Colangelo will be chairman of the committee and other members will be appointed later.

The committee will explore the various issues relating to any future expansion by the 27-team league, including markets, timing and whether any expansion is advisable.

Also adopted this week were rules changes regarding the 24-second clock, timeouts as a result of cuts and the amount of cash included in a player trade.

The new rule on the 24-second clock states that it will be reset only when the ball hits the rim. Previously, the clock was reset

when the ball hit the rim or the backboard.

The new policy on laceration control will allow either team to call a timeout when play is suspended in order to allow it to treat a bleeding wound and return the player to the game without missing play. If the injured player's team has no timeouts remaining, officials will give the team 20 seconds to treat the cut, and if treatment is not completed in that time, the player must be removed from the game until the bleeding stops.

Last season, in response to Magic Johnson's positive test for HIV, the league adopted a rule that officials are to stop a game at the earliest appropriate time whenever a player has a bleeding wound and remove him from the game.

The governors also modified a bylaw, originally adopted in 1983, setting a limit on the amount of cash that can be included in a player trade made between Dec. 15 and the playoffs. The limit was raised from \$300,000 to \$1 million.

Soccer dog named

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The World Cup pup finally has a name—Striker.

A six-week nationwide U.S. search to name the mascot ended with soccer play and paw prints on the cement outside Hollywood's Mann Chinese Theater Thursday. The famous theater's front courtyard bears the handprints and footprints of myriad stars of past and present.

The 7-foot- (2.1-meter) tall Striker, wearing the red, white and blue World Cup USA '94 uniform, was joined by World Cup officials, actor Andrew Shue of "Melrose Place" and U.S. national team player Desmond

Armstrong. Striker's dribble with soccer enthusiasts Shue and Armstrong was popular with the children on hand.

More than 25,000 people participated in the "name the mascot" campaign.

The high-spirited Striker will promote World Cup '94, the world's biggest sports event, said Alan I. Rothenberg, chairman and CEO of World Cup USA.

The summer event will be played simultaneously in Los Angeles, San Francisco, Dallas, Chicago, Detroit, Boston, New Jersey, Orlando and Washington, D.C.

Blackburn host Man. United

LONDON (AP) — Blackburn Rovers puts its title-winning potential to the test Saturday against last season's runner up Manchester United.

The promoted team managed by Kenny Dalglish has the chance to regain top spot from Norwich because the leader is idle.

But Blackburn faces a Manchester United team which had the best defensive record last term although it is struggling to score this season.

One point separates leader Norwich and second place Blackburn who have surprised the big clubs and brought new faces and styles to English soccer.

Dalglish's expensively-assembled team has some big names, including England's No. 1 striker Alan Shearer who is top scorer in domestic soccer this season with 15 goals.

Runner up to Leeds last season Manchester United places sixth this term and is six points behind Norwich with 12 of the 42 games played.

Should Blackburn slip up Saturday, third place Coventry could take advantage by beating mid-standings Chelsea at home.

Aston Villa, which has climbed to fourth after hiring Welsh striker Dean Saunders from Liverpool, travels to Oldham and Queens Park Rangers, which is fifth, hosts champion Leeds, which places eighth.

Seventh place Arsenal, still the title favourite at odds of 9-4, should profit from a home game against Everton, which is only one position above its Merseyside neighbour, Liverpool.

BRITISH SOCCER

Ipswich and Crystal Palace both have tied seven of their 12 league games. Palace has won only one game all season and when the two meet in Ipswich Saturday, few observers are predicting an away win.

In other premier league games Southampton visit Manchester City, Middlesbrough hosts Sheffield Wednesday and last place Nottingham Forest goes to Sheffield United.

Scottish League leader Glasgow Rangers plays Aberdeen Sunday in the final of the League Cup at Hampden Park.

Jordan testifies in Federal Court

CHARLOTTE, North Carolina (AP) — Basketball star Michael Jordan testified in Federal Court that a \$57,000 check he wrote to a suspected drug dealer covered gambling losses from a weekend of golf and poker at a South Carolina resort.

Jordan, a guard for the NBA's Chicago Bulls and a former University of North Carolina star, testified during the money laundering and drug trial of James "Ain" Boulter, 41.

When the money was seized, Boulter and Jordan claimed it was a loan from Jordan for a golf

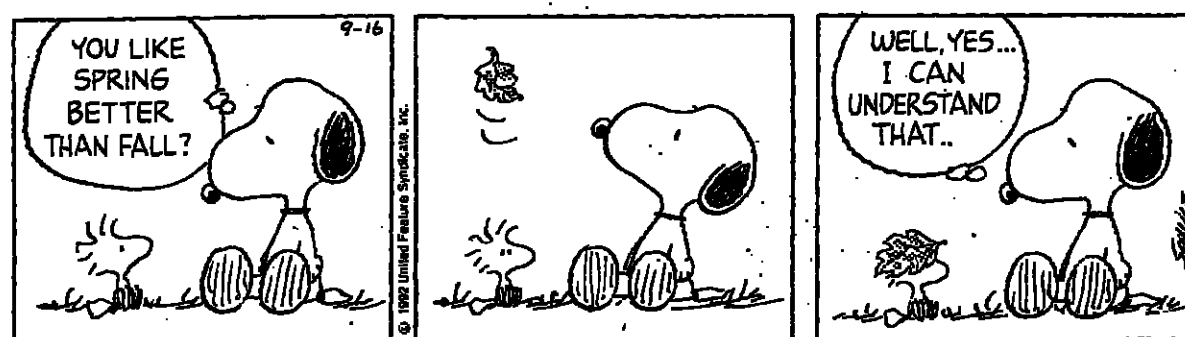
driving range. Last week, Jordan told a Chicago newspaper it was a gambling debt. Then he said he was misquoted.

But Jordan admitted during brief testimony Thursday that his initial account wasn't true.

When defence attorney James Wyatt asked Jordan what the \$57,000 was for, Jordan replied: "For what I lost gambling on golf and later in poker when he loaned me some money. I didn't have any money."

The government has said Jordan is the subject of a criminal investigation.

Peanuts



Andy Capp



Mutt'n' Jeff



HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR SATURDAY OCTOBER 24, 1992

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: A problem from the past can hold you back from gaining new ambitions as the Moon squares Saturn, Uranus and Mars, putting you in a negative frame of mind that associates can easily detect.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) Get into a better budgeting of your assets and liabilities in the daytime after which you can make desirable changes where outside interests are concerned.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) You can pretty much plan this morning on what you want to do of a practical nature, then tonight use your cleverness to make a success of them.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) A fine morning to plan what you want to do to have a greater amount of prosperity during the day then tonight put some zip into doing exact that directly.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) You see the best down to earth means by which you can make your dreams come true, then put such a plan quietly into effect in the evening.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) Do the public or worldly matters awaiting your attention in the morning while in the evening you will be able to go after more intimate aims.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) New interests can be reduced to a plan that will work to your benefit in the morning while later

get into the worldly aspects of such an undertaking.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) A good morning to look into accounts, statements, reports and get them in back of you, then you can get off to some appealing new activity.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) Some very interesting condition that appeals to you comes to light in the morning, then you will be able to utilise it in your own affairs.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) Work, duties and errands should fly efficiently in the morning so get at them early which you can get out in the world for your purposes.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) Think about what you can do to have more pleasures with your close companions, then get into the actual arrangements necessary to do this.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) A good morning to get your dwelling place in the best of condition, then you can be off to the pleasures, recreations you like so much to do.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) Desk work and communications with others are easily, well handled in the morning, giving you time in the evening to enjoy comforts at your home.

"The stars impel, they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you.

THE BETTER HALF.

By Harris



"I dreamed they made a movie about my parents: 'Honey, I Screwed Up the Kid!'"

JUMBLE. THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

HICED

THIRM

DEMUGS

WUNTAL

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

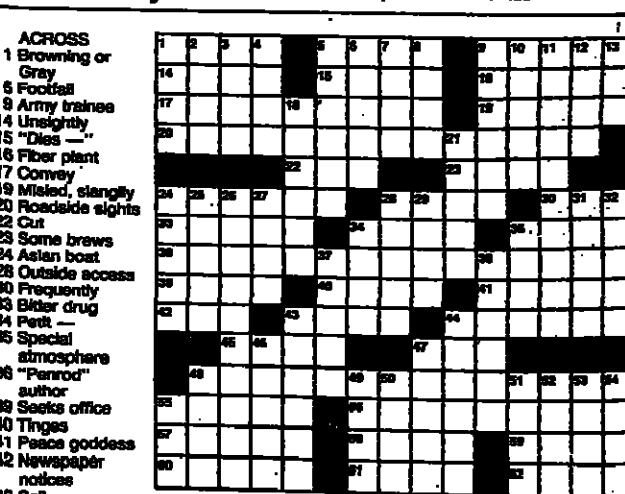
Answer: A

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: UNCLE MURKY HOTBED BLUING

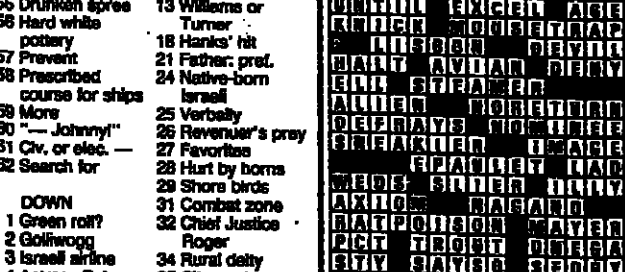
Answer: A foot often remains poor when he pretends to be this—RICH

THE Daily Crossword by Richard Thomas



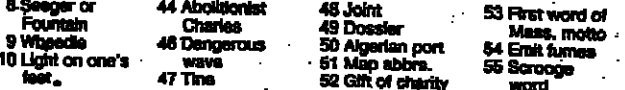
©1992 Tribune Media Services, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:



©1992 Tribune Media Services, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:



©1992 Tribune Media Services, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

Pizza, Lasagna
Spaghetti, Salads
Sandwiches, Beverages
Unique taste
Gardens St. tel. 686562
7th Circle tel. 817824

NEW
FAST IN AQABA
Fast cruising voyages
for families & tourists
FAST YACHT IS FULLY EQUIPPED FOR YOUR SAFETY & COMFORT. AIRCONDITIONED CABIN COMPRISING TWO BEDROOMS, SITTING ROOM & KITCHEN. TELEVISION, VIDEO, FLY BRIDGE. YACHT IS FULLY INSURED & LICENSED. EXPERIENCED CAPTAIN
COULD BE RENTED FOR HALF-A-DAY OR ONE DAY OR MORE FOR RESERVATION PLEASE CALL: 713193, 715815, CONTACT FAX: 713194

GOREN BRIDGE
WITH OMAR SHARIF & TAMMAM HIRSCH
©1992 Tribune Media Services, Inc.
WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ
Q.1—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠83 ♠6 ♠QJ76 ♠KQ8542
Partner opens the bidding with one heart. What do you respond?
Q.2—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠9542 ♠73 ♠AJ652 ♠AK2
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 1 NT Pass
What do you bid now?
Q.3—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠AQJ762 ♠KQ85 ♠K6 ♠7
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 1 NT Pass
What do you bid now?
Q.4—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠K105 ♠AQ872 ♠KQ85 ♠6
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass
What do you bid now?
Q.5—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠KJ76 ♠AK854 ♠K8 ♠A6
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass
What do you bid now?
Q.6—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠KJ6 ♠AK854 ♠K8 ♠A6
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass
What do you bid now?
Q.7—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠KJ6 ♠AK854 ♠K8 ♠A6
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass
What do you bid now?

Financial Markets

U.S. Dollar in International Markets

Currency	NEW YORK CLOSE Date 21/10/92	TOKYO CLOSE Date 22/10/92
Sterling Pound	1.6060	1.6190
Deutsche Mark	1.5225	1.5210
Swiss Franc	1.3595	1.3578
French Franc	5.1670	5.1625**
Japanese Yen	122.65	122.36
European Currency Unit	1.2845	1.2880**

USD Per JGD
** European Opening @ 8:00 A.M. GMT

Interbank bid rates for amounts exceeding U.S. Dollars 1,000,000 or equivalent.

Currency	1 MTH	3 MTHS	6 MTHS	12 MTHS
U.S. Dollar	3.18	3.46	3.50	3.75
Sterling Pound	9.00	7.87	7.31	6.63
Deutsche Mark	8.75	8.68	8.25	7.68
Swiss Franc	6.06	6.12	6.06	5.93
French Franc	9.93	9.68	9.50	8.87
Japanese Yen	3.90	3.84	3.75	3.68
European Currency Unit	10.06	10.00	9.52	9.31

Metal	USD/Oz	JD/Gm	Metal	USD/Oz	JD/Gm
Gold	543.40	6.75	Silver	3.80	.082

Central Bank of Jordan Exchange Rate Bulletin

Currency	Bid	Offer
U.S. Dollar	0.683	0.685
Sterling Pound	1.1048	1.1102
Deutsche Mark	0.4485	0.4508
Swiss Franc	0.5024	0.5049
French Franc	0.1323	0.1330
Japanese Yen	0.5576	0.5604
Dutch Guilder	0.3989	0.4009
Swedish Krona	0.1190	0.1196
Italian Lira	0.0517	0.0514
Belgian Franc	0.02199	0.02210

Currency	Bid	Offer
Rahat Dinar	1.7900	1.8100
Lebanese Lira	0.02906	0.03250
Saudi Riyal	0.1818	0.1828
Kuwaiti Dinar	2.2300	2.3050
Qatari Riyal	0.1850	0.1865
Egyptian Pound	0.2000	0.2100
Omani Riyal	1.7550	1.7750
UAE Dirham	0.1850	0.1865
Greek Drachma	0.3467	0.3567
Cypriot Pound	1.5026	1.5156

CAB Indicators for Amman Financial Market

Index	20/10/92	Close	21/10/92	Close
All-Share	153.39		154.00	
Banking Sector	116.75		117.12	
Insurance Sector	166.86		167.98	
Industry Sector	199.99		200.74	
Services Sector	220.46		222.35	

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midsession on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Friday.

One Sterling	1.6300/10	U.S. dollars	1.6300/10
One U.S. dollar	1.2460/65	Canadian dollar	1.5050/60
	1.6930/45	Deutsche marks	1.3415/25
	1.3415/25	Dutch guilders	30.92/96
	5.1035/135	Swiss francs	1320/1325
	121.35/45	Belgian francs	5.6625/725
	5.6625/725	French francs	6.1200/300
	121.35/45	Italian lire	5.7775/875
	5.7775/875	Japanese yen	343.20/343.60
	343.20/343.60	Swedish crowns	
		Danish crowns	
		U.S. dollars	

ILO sees unemployment in Russia reaching crisis levels next year

MOSCOW (R) — Russia is struggling to cope with mass unemployment which looks set to reach crisis levels in the coming months, the International Labour Organisation (ILO) has said.

An ILO report predicted that widespread layoffs, factory closures and the break-up of giant enterprises early next year would have "drastic employment consequences" which could undermine the overall process of economic reform.

"The collapse of industrial output, the steep decline in industrial employment and the fall in real wages all point to levels of unemployment surpassing those of the worst cases of eastern and central Europe," Guy Standing, director of the ILO's new Eastern Euro-

pean Office said in a statement.

Enterprises had cut jobs by more than 15 per cent between September 1990 and June 1992 and almost half expected further cuts over the next 12 months, saying they could maintain current output levels with a smaller workforce.

These estimates are indicators of the coming employment crisis," said Mr. Standing.

The majority of the unemployed were not receiving benefits or employment services, he said, urging more effective measures at both enterprise and central government level.

"Unless unemployment and its social consequences can be kept to tolerable levels, macro-economic reform will be under-

mined," he added.

On the positive side, the ILO said its survey of over 500 industrial enterprises in 1991-1992 showed Russia's state firms responding to economic changes more quickly than expected.

"The common claim that state enterprises have been holding on to all or almost all of their workers is simply not supported by the data," it said.

Average wages rose by 680 per cent over the period, although this fell short of official inflation

estimates.

A cash squeeze on enterprises was forcing them to resort more and more to paying workers in kind and bartering with other firms for consumer goods, including food.

Earlier this year, the ILO predicted that unemployment could rise to 10 million by the end of 1992. Official Russian statistics showed 9.04,259 people registered as unemployed on Sept. 1, of whom only 174,125 were receiving benefit.

Turkey offers loans to create new markets

ANKARA (R) — The Turkish Eximbank will lead a total of \$360 million to Bulgaria, Romania, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Mexico and Iran, its general manager said Thursday.

"We are making constant efforts to create new markets for exporters," Ahmet Ertugrul said in a statement.

He said Turkey would sign agreements by the end of this year to open credit lines of \$35 million to Bulgaria, \$50 million to Romania and \$100 million each to Czechoslovakia and Poland.

The state-owned bank will also lend \$50 million to Iran and \$25 million to Mexico in export cre-

dits provided that these countries also open credits for the same amounts to Turkey, Mr. Ertugrul said.

This will boost the (two-way) trade volume with these two countries by \$150 million a year from 1993," he said.

Mr. Ertugrul also said financial hitches in a \$50 million export credit to Hungary would be removed soon.

Ankara offered a package of \$1.1 billion to Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan and Kyrgyzstan through Eximbank during Prime Minister Suleyman Demirel's Central Asian visit in May.

Official report smears Bank of England's reputation over BCCI

LONDON (R) — The Bank of England, Britain's central bank, woke up Friday to find its reputation in tatters and its hoped-for independence receding.

An official report on the closure of the Bank of Credit and Commerce International (BCCI), published Thursday, provoked widespread criticism of the central bank for its failure to get to grips with fraud at the heart of BCCI.

"The bank's supervisory approach to BCCI was in my opinion deficient," it was said in the report, issued after a year-long study by appeals Judge Lord Justice Bingham.

Judge Bingham's careful language masked a fundamental flaw in the Bank of England which prevented it — and may continue to prevent it — from detecting serious crime, according to bankers, brokers and lawyers contacted by Reuters.

Its inbred culture of relying on "gentlemen's agreements" and remoteness from the rough and tumble of the markets meant it was not equipped to deal with modern banking and fraud, they said.

"The bank cannot cope with modern banking transactions," one lawyer said. "It still relies on the old boy network."

A commercial banker agreed. "You can't supervise unless you know the business. The bank needs to be more street-wise."

The Bank of England's reliance on a quiet word and a raised eyebrow worked well in the old days, the banker said. Since the wide-ranging changes brought about by the deregulation of the

London markets in 1986, the need was for sharper supervision.

"You need a cross between the Fed (U.S. Federal Reserve Board and SEC (Securities and Exchange Commission)," the banker said.

New supervisory and legal departments, two changes the bank announced when the Bingham report was published, would be token gestures, a stockbroker said.

Judge Bingham said the central bank had wide-ranging powers to act but failed to do so because it was not "inquisitive and alert."

"There's a view in the city (London's financial district), the Bank of England is largely discredited," said the broker.

He said the bank lacked the freedom of action enjoyed by Germany's Bundesbank. It was not independent in conducting monetary policy and was humiliated by the treasury's incoherent economic policy.

But its failings over BCCI did not recommend further freedoms. Financial analysts say the bank has been lobbying for independence so it can manage monetary policy and combat inflation, free from political intervention. It is under control of the treasury and the chancellor of the exchequer.

But even a senior banker who supports the bank said: "The Bank of England failed — and it failed catastrophically."

The governor of the bank, Robin Leigh-Pemberton, is due to retire by June 1993. The sources said it was unlikely he would be succeeded by his deputy, Eddie George, because he, too, was tainted by failure.

Survey says Britain is suffering second downward turn into recession

LONDON (R) — Britain is suffering a second downward turn into recession with nearly all measures of economic activity falling back sharply in the past three months, an economic survey has shown.

The British Chambers of Commerce (BCC) survey indicated that — after steady improvement over the past year — sales, orders, investment, employment and confidence declined during the third quarter of 1992 with all regions of Britain suffering either a slowdown or contraction.

"Commerce and industry has suffered a turbulent three months and a sharp downturn in activity," said BCC President Christopher Stewart Smith. "This third quarter has seen a worsening of the external economic environment, with depressed home and export markets, interest and exchange rate shocks, as well as economic and political instability."

"These are not the conditions for recovery," he added.

Prime Minister John Major, bowing to pressure to change course because of rising unemployment and the bleak outlook, Tuesday announced a new economic strategy, shifting the emphasis to growth, confident that with the economy so low inflationary pressures are virtually zero.

The quarterly survey of 8,242 companies employing 1.3 million people was carried out between Sept. 7 and Sept. 25, immediately before and after sterling left Europe's exchange rate system.

The BCC survey said the domestic market for both manufacturing and the services sector had slumped back into decline. Manufacturers have been especially hit with receding sales and an alarming decline in order levels.

Export sales declined sharply and job-shedding rose steeply, with a growing number of firms looking to cut more jobs in the coming quarter, the survey showed.

It added that confidence was back at the same low ebb it was a year ago, the severest point so far of a two-year recession that is Britain's worst since the 1930s.

But Mr. Stewart Smith cautioned the government against cutting interest rates too sharply and tightening too much on fiscal policy.

"There is no room in economic policy for a reckless dash for growth," he said. "While the government must be cautious with inflation, this is not the time to cut important capital investment programmes." He said most urgently needed was help for

British exporters.

British newspapers have urged the battered Conservative government to cut interest rates as they gave major advice on how to save the economy.

With the government's credibility damaged by a series of drastic policy U-turns, the leading broadsheet newspapers weighed in with their own economic strategies for recovery.

"Lower interest rates should be the main plank of any programme to return to growth and if the government reneges on that policy it will be finished," the Times wrote.

The Financial Times bemoaned a lack of any coherent economic policy to cope with Britain's worst recession since the 1930s.

"The government has realised it needs a strategy. But it still hasn't got one," it said.

"Alas, we need a steep devaluation to promote exports and keep our incomes rise," it pointed out.

The traditionally right-wing Daily Telegraph demanded higher taxes and cuts in public spending and urged the government not to ratify the European Community's Maastricht treaty on closer economic, monetary and political union.

"The government needs time to lick its wounds and to concentrate its energies on the country's foremost concern the economy," it wrote.

Most papers agreed the government had survived the latest crisis brought on by its plans to shut 31 coal mines and axe 30,000 jobs. The Conservatives had won some breathing space by putting these plans on hold, the newspapers said, but they were not safe yet.

"In this momentous week, the battle to revive Britain has begun," the Daily Mail said, but added: "Ministers will have to turn the gauntlet of a long, hard and unpopular winter of discounting."

Romania doubles petrol price to chase currency

BUCHAREST (R) — Romania has doubled the price of petrol to bring it in line with a heavy decline in the value of the local currency, the leu.

Premium fuel rose to 220 lei from 120 lei a litre (\$2.32 from \$1.27 per imperial gallon). A 40-litre (8.8 gallon) per driver monthly allowance of subsidised gasoline was raised to 100 lei from 50 lei a litre (\$1.05 from \$0.55 per gallon).

The price of lower grade fuels was increased accordingly. The old prices were set a year ago in relationship with the world market when the exchange rate was 180 lei to the dollar. Since then, as Romania continued its market economy reforms the currency has fallen to 430 per dollar.

Romania extracts some of its petroleum locally but it relies on imports for most of its needs.

Ground Floor From A Villa For Rent. Furnished or Unfurnished. Located in Shmeisani, near the Romanian Embassy and the Orthodox School. Consisting of three rooms, a salon, dining, sitting room, veranda, three bathrooms. Area: 300 square metres, with a special garden, special entrance, telephone, garage. Please call the owner, tel. 623108, fax 651151

For Rent In Abdoun (For Embassies And Foreign Companies Only) Newly built semi-villa with private entrance and garden, two stories, 360 square metres, consists of a large living and dining room, family room, master bedroom, 2 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms and a servant bedroom in suite bathroom. Tel. 622418, Saturday and Sunday

House For Sale Or Rent Furnished or Unfurnished In A Prime Area 4-storey building made like a villa. American style, completely remodelled, 7 bedrooms, 2 master bedrooms, 7 bathrooms, 1 jacuzzi, 4 boilers for each floor, 2 huge water tanks with a well, 1 automatic pump to equalise pressure in the whole house, 2 telephone lines and fax line, 40 fruit trees around the house, 2 car garages, central heating in the whole house. Please call the owner tel. 694542, fax. 694543

FURNISHED SEMI-VILLA FOR RENT Super deluxe furniture & finishing, 2nd floor Location: Rabia district, between the Baptist School and Mecca St., in a unique, quiet residential area. Suitable for diplomats. Consists of: 3 bedrooms, 1 master bedroom, 1 living room, 1 guest room, 1 equipped German style kitchen, 3 bathrooms, large terrace with wide sight, suitable for parties. Phone is available. For more information, please call 810464

GOETHE INSTITUT AMMAN German Language Courses Registration: Saturday to Monday October 24-26, 1992 from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. and 4 p.m. - 6 p.m. course duration 8 weeks October 31 - December 23, 1992 course fees: JD 36. For further information please call: 641993 Saturday through Wednesday from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. and 4 p.m. - 6 p.m. Goethe Institut, Amman, Jabal Amman, Abdel Mun'im Al Rifa'i Street near 3rd Circle, opposite Riad Centre

Cinema Tel: 677420
CONCORD
LETHAL WEAPON 3
Shows: 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30 p.m.

Cinema Tel: 634144
PHILADELPHIA
Robert Redford — Lena Olin
in
H.A.V.A.N.A.
Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:45
Special performances for children on Thursday & Friday at 11:00 a.m.
BUGS BUNNY

Tel: 675571
Nabil Al Mashini Theatre
Today and every day, Nabil Al Mashini Theatre in, Abdall presents Abu Awwad... In **TAA'AH WA KAYMEH (CHAOS)**
Show: 8:30 p.m.
Ticket window is open all day

Tel: 625155
AHLAN THEATRE
Always something new to go with...
"Welcome — new world order — play
presented at the Ahlan Nabil and Hisham Theatre, Rainbow Hall - Jabal Amman. We have daily performances except Mondays
For reservation, call tel. 625155

Akihito arrives in Peking, deplors war past in China

PEKING (AP) — Emperor Akihito, beginning the first trip to China by a Japanese emperor, said Friday he "deplors" the great suffering his country inflicted upon the Chinese people during World War II.

Emperor Akihito's much anticipated comments — which both sides hope will help smooth the complex and extremely sensitive relationship — stress that for most of the past 20 years or so, Japan and China have gotten along quite peacefully.

"However, in the long history of relations between our two countries there was an unfortunate period in which my country inflicted great sufferings on the people of China," he said at a banquet hosted by Chinese President Yang Shangkun. "I deeply deplore this."

Emperor Akihito, who was still a child when the war ended, added that Japan was reflected on its past with deep remorse and has vowed to "tread the road of a peaceful nation."

But in keeping with the expressions of remorse he has offered other countries that suffered Japan's World War II exploits, Emperor Akihito stopped short of specifically asking for forgiveness.

Emperor Akihito has expressed "deep regrets" for the past when he received guests visiting from China, South Korea and other Asian war victims.

Controversy over what the emperor should say to the Chinese has raged for months in Japan as conservatives tried to pressure the government out of allowing even a weak apology.

Millions of Chinese died during China's war with Japan, which ended when Tokyo surrendered to the allies in 1945. China's Communist leaders renounced all claims for reparations when relations were normalised 20 years ago, but some Japanese fear a clean-cut apology could lead to renewed reparation claims.

Right-wing Japanese also feared that such an apology would embarrass the emperor and compromise his position as the revered symbol of the Japanese people.

Chinese leaders tried to ease those fears by assuring Tokyo that the visit itself, not the apology, was what they were most interested in.

Bringing Emperor Akihito to Peking ostensibly to mark the 20th anniversary of relations, is a big diplomatic success for China, whose international image is still deeply tarnished by the bloody crackdown on pro-democracy demonstrators at Tiananmen Square in 1989.

Emperor Akihito, whose welcoming ceremony was held just across the street from the square Friday afternoon, is the most prestigious foreign dignitary to visit Peking since the crackdown.



Emperor Akihito

first travelled abroad as emperor last year. He visited Thailand, Malaysia and Indonesia.

Meanwhile, a temple in central Japan was burned down early Friday in what local police said they believe was arson by leftist radicals. The temple in Haza, Aichi Prefecture, was dedicated to seven wartime leaders later convicted as war criminals, including Gen. Hideki Tojo.

Leftists also oppose the emperor's visit, saying it could lead to a resurgence of Japanese militarism.

Bush says Hanoi agreed to turn over all records

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Bush said Friday that the Vietnamese government has agreed to turn over all its material, including "photographs, artifacts, detailed records" on American war prisoners. In return, Mr. Bush announced modest first steps toward establishing friendly relations with Hanoi.

Mr. Bush announced a "significant, a real breakthrough" at a Rose Garden appearance after he was briefed by members of a U.S. delegation that returned earlier this week from Vietnam.

The delegation returned with more than 4,000 photographs and military documents.

"Today is a day of significance for all Americans," Mr. Bush said.

He announced that his administration was prepared to provide humanitarian aid to Vietnam, beginning with "modest disaster assistance for floods."

"We appreciate what has been done. Now we are determined to go forward," Mr. Bush said.

"We are beginning to review what additional steps we can take with Hanoi."

"It pains beyond words to say we may never know what happened to each and every American, but we will spare no effort...to determine the fate of our missing men," Mr. Bush said.

Although the developments occurred less than two weeks before the presidential election, Mr. Bush said seeking to account for all missing U.S. servicemen "must transcend partisan politics in every way."

After Mr. Bush's comments, retired Army Gen. John Vessey Jr., Mr. Bush's special envoy to Vietnam, termed the agreement by Hanoi to open up its archives and files "a turning point."

"This will help us recover the remains of those who have been killed...and move us faster toward a full accounting of those who have been missing," Gen. Vessey said.

Mr. Bush has indicated earlier that there would be no decision on normalising relations with Vietnam before his term ends in January, meaning a decision could fall to Democrat Bill Clinton if Mr. Bush loses his bid for reelection.

"Hanoi has agreed to provide us with all, and I repeat all, information they have collected on American POWs and MIAs.

Gen. Vessey called the thousands of photographs and other material only the tip of an iceberg in terms of what else is available.

"The important thing is not the material we brought back. The important thing is the material we expect to get," Gen. Vessey said.

Mr. Bush said he also agreed to "increase humanitarian assistance to the Vietnamese veterans of the war" and had also directed his administration "to work with Hanoi in developing ways to identify Vietnam's MIAs."

Mr. Bush has indicated earlier that there would be no decision on normalising relations with Vietnam before his term ends in January, meaning a decision could fall to Democrat Bill Clinton if Mr. Bush loses his bid for reelection.

"Hanoi has agreed to provide us with all, and I repeat all, information they have collected on American POWs and MIAs.

French officials jailed over AIDS-tainted blood

PARIS (R) — A court sentenced three former French health officials to prison Friday over the contamination of more than 1,000 haemophiliacs with the AIDS virus through blood transfusions.

Michel Garretta, former head of the National Blood Transfusion Centre, was given the maximum four-year sentence on charges of fraud and criminal negligence over the transfusions, carried out seven years ago.

Jean-Pierre Allain, former head of transfusion research, was sentenced to four years, two of them suspended, on the same charges.

They were accused of allowing blood they knew was contamin-

ated with the acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS) virus to be used in transfusions in France's most serious contemporary health scandal.

Jacques Roux, former public health director, was given a four-year suspended sentence on a charge of criminal negligence. A fourth official, Robert Netter, former director of the Health Ministry Laboratory, was acquitted.

Victims and their families emerged from the courtroom stunned and in tears.

Joelle Boucher, whose teenage son Ludovic was infected with the virus, said the sentences were "an

WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF

German rightists attack 2 hostels

BERLIN (R) — Rightist mobs shouting "Germany for the Germans" hurled rocks and petrol bombs at two immigrant hostels and attacked a group of foreign students in east Germany on Thursday night and early Friday. Young racist Germans, many of them drunk, ambushed the students in front of their residence in the northern town of Greifswald Thursday night and drove them back inside, a police spokesman said. Riot police arrived moments later and prevented a major brawl but were pelted with rocks and petrol bombs by rioting Germans. Fifteen were detained for disturbing the peace. No serious injuries were reported. In the Baltic coast town of Ueckermünde near the Polish border, about 20 rightists bellowing "Germany for the Germans" and "foreigners out" threw stones at a hostel for foreign asylum seekers, police there reported. Four people were detained. Rightist youths lobbed three petrol bombs into a public housing complex occupied by Vietnamese in Bergern near Weimar in the south of eastern Germany. A fire was put out quickly and there was no notable damage.

Mozambican army recaptures town

MAPUTO (R) — Mozambican government troops have retaken the northern port of Angoche after a four-day occupation by opposition RENAMO guerrillas, newspapers reported Friday. The troops began an assault at dawn Thursday and recaptured the town by 8 a.m., the independent news letter Mediafax quoted the government's military commander for Nampula province, Lieutenant-Colonel Lourenco Fortunato, as saying. Col. Fortunato said RENAMO resistance was minimal. RENAMO guerrillas fleeing the town were still being pursued by army troops on Thursday evening, Noticias newspaper quoted a source in the army's general staff headquarters as saying. Provincial Governor Alfredo Gamito told Noticias that seven people trying to escape the fighting drowned when bad weather wrecked boats they were using to reach nearby islands.

France bars 4 Russians as spies

PARIS (R) — France said Friday it was expelling four Russian intelligence agents. Foreign Ministry spokesman Daniel Bernard said the Russian charge d'affaires was summoned to the Foreign Ministry and told the four, who were not named, must leave France by Nov. 1. Officials said the Interior Ministry had reported

in July that secret French documents had been passed to a foreign power. A French citizen had been charged with treason and two others were under investigation in the affair, they said.

Togolese troops free hostages

LOME (R) — Togolese troops released members of parliament on Friday 24 hours after taking them hostage. President Gnassingbe Eyadema's spokesman said on national radio. The spokesman, Panou Koffi, announced the end of the drama in the parliament building in a statement read on radio. The troops, who ordered the closure of the West African country's land borders on Thursday night, took over the congress centre in Lome where the High Council of the Republic (HCR), the interim parliament, holds its sessions. They forced legislators to pass a law unfreezing the assets of Mr. Eyadema's party, the Togolese People's Rally (RPT).

Court: Biya won Cameroon election

YAOUNDE (R) — Cameroon's Supreme Court announced Friday that incumbent Paul Biya won presidential elections held on Oct. 11. It released voting figures giving President Biya a narrow victory over opposition leader John Fru Ndi who earlier declared himself victor despite charges of vote-rigging against the government. The Supreme Court said Mr. Biya received 1,185,446 votes or 39.9 per cent of valid votes cast. It said Mr. Fru Ndi scored 1,066,602 (35.9 per cent) and Bello Bouba Maigari, the other main opposition challenger, 569,887 votes (19.2 per cent). Three lesser candidates collectively won fewer than 100,000 votes and the court said turnout was 71.87 per cent.

2 win UNESCO award

PARIS (AP) — Burmese opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi, who won the 1991 Nobel Peace Prize, and former Tanzanian President Julius Nyerere have been awarded UNESCO's Simon Bolivar Prize for 1992. Mr. Nyerere received his award in person. Mrs. Suu Kyi, kept under house arrest in Burma by the country's military dictatorship, was represented by close friend Ma Than E. The Simon Bolivar Prize, named for the Latin American independence leader, has presented by the United Nations Education, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) for 15 years.

Patten shrugs off Chinese threats on reform

HONG KONG (R) — Governor Chris Patten shrugged off Chinese threats Friday to strangulate the colony's new airport project and derail his plan for democratic reforms, and criticised Peking for making no proposals of its own.

Speaking after returning from his first trip to Peking, Mr. Patten admitted that completing the Hong Kong dollar 175 billion (\$22 billion) airport project without Chinese support would be a tough task.

But he told reporters: "Hong Kong people know there will be an airport and people are surprised to hear criticism and no proposals."

Before leaving Peking, Mr. Patten told a news conference that if there was no agreement on democratic changes and the new airport, Hong Kong would go it alone, with or without Peking's blessing. Hong Kong returns to China in 1997.

Lu Ping, director of China's Hong Kong and Macau Affairs Office, responded by saying aircraft using any new airport built without China's approval would be banned from the country's airspace.

The post-1997 government would also not take responsibility for any debts or contracts of the airport, he said.

"I think it would be very difficult to complete the project as quickly as we would like without the agreement of Chinese officials," Mr. Patten said after arriving at Hong Kong's Kai Tak Airport.

But he dismissed Mr. Lu's threat over airspace. "I'm not sure the question of Chinese airspace comes into matters. It's academic," he said.

A large number of flights to Hong Kong currently cross Chinese airspace and air links with China are growing rapidly as the mainland economy booms.

A row over financing the project has dragged on for months but it has now become entangled with Mr. Patten's plans.

Kanemaru's power base breaks up

TOKYO (R) — The damning money-and-mobsters scandal that toppled Japan's top political fixer has now accomplished the unthinkable — the break-up of the dominant faction in the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP).

Early Friday, elders of the party's "kingmaker" faction headed by late last week by Shin Kanemaru, named Keizo Obuchi, a mild-mannered aide to ex-Premier Noboru Takeshita, chairman.

Disasters befalling rival candidate Tsutomu Hata, the current finance minister, refused to accept the choice, which came after a week of haggling in smoke-filled rooms.

"There is no other way but a break-up," Transport Minister Keiichi Okuda told a news conference. Mr. Okuda acts as the rebel group spokesman.

"We will work around Mr. Hata to build a new policy group

Bosnia tries to contain Croat-Muslim fighting

SARAJEVO, Bosnia-Herzegovina (AP) — Croat and Muslim factions battled for a fourth day Friday in central Bosnia, further straining their fragile one-time alliance. A U.N. commander said leaders of the two sides were trying to keep the feud from spreading.

The Croats and Muslims are supposedly allied against the rebel Serbs, but tensions between them have broken into scattered battles this week and added an ominous new ingredient to the civil war in this former Yugoslav Republic.

Indian Gen. Satish Nambiar, commander of U.N. peacekeeping forces in former Yugoslavia, told reporters in Zagreb, Croatia, that "efforts have been made from both sides to contain (the fighting) and make sure it does not spread."

Meanwhile, rebel Serbs were once accused of violating an Oct. 9 U.N. ban on military flights by staging air attacks in northern Bosnia.

Sarajevo Radio said Friday that Serb helicopters rocketed government positions in the northern town of Brcko, part of a strategic strip of Bosnia linking Serbia to Serb-ruled territories in Croatia.

The Serb-surrounded Bosnian capital, Sarajevo, was generally quiet but the fighting between Muslims and Croats north of town scrapped local Red Cross plans Friday to evacuate 6,000 women, children, elderly and handicapped people.

The besieged city enjoyed a rare morning of relative peace. Pedestrians clogged streets deemed safe from sniper fire Friday on a lovely fall day.

Water, cut for more than a month, has been restored to most areas because of dangerous repair work by U.N.-protected utility crews, who continued to brave sniper fire and shelling.

Electricity also has been restored in many places during the last two days and apartments are now lit at night.

Muslim, Croatian and Serb factions planned to meet under U.N. guidance in Sarajevo to discuss the demilitarisation of the city, which faces severe shortages of food and other essentials as a harsh winter approaches.

The day before, five mortar shells landed in a cemetery during a funeral. Sarajevo Radio reported Friday that one person died and 22 were wounded.

The war in Bosnia broke out after ethnic Serbs rebelled against a decision in February by the republic's majority Muslims and Croats to secede from Yugoslavia. More than 14,000 people have died since.

Serb rebels, heavily armed by the Serbian Republic, control about 70 per cent of Bosnia-Herzegovina and ethnic Croats control much of the rest.

Though the Muslims and Croats are allied loosely against the more formidable Serbs, the alliance is showing severe strains.

For a fourth day, fighting was reported in central Bosnia between Muslim and Croat factions. Sarajevo Radio and Belgrade-based Tanjug News Agency reported conflicts around the city of Novi Travnik.

Sarajevo Radio said dozens were injured and Tanjug, quoting the Croat military command, said Muslim troops fired artillery at Croat positions.

Many Muslims fear closer ties between Bosnia's ethnic Croats and Serbs will result in the ethnic partitioning of Bosnia between neighbouring Croatia and Serbia.

Much of the territory already is splintered along ethnic lines.

In neighbouring Croatia, two U.S. doctors said Thursday they saw evidence of a mass grave near the city of Vukovar. Croatia last year fought a secessionist war against Serb-dominated Yugoslavia that left an estimated 10,000 dead. A truce was reached in January.

New York physician H. Jack Geiger said Thursday that a witness told him the mass grave near Vukovar contained remains of about 100 wounded Croat soldiers taken from a hospital by Serb fighters and executed on Nov. 20.

In Belgrade, Serbia's ruling Socialist Party opened a closed-door congress Friday. Serbia's hardline President Slobodan Milosevic was expected to lead the purge of his party's ranks to rid of all those who do not support his hardline policies.

After more than five years in office, Mr. Milosevic's popularity is sinking. He now ranks third in the polls.

COLUMN

Sinead explains Pope-tearing incident

LONDON (AP) — Irish rock artist Sinead O'Connor said she tore up a picture of Pope John Paul II on a U.S. prime-time television show to protest Roman Catholic dogma. The action during an Oct. 3 appearance on Saturday Night Live shocked viewers and fans. In a statement issued in London, the stubble-haired singer accused the Vatican of using "marriage, divorce, and in particular birth control and abortion to control us through our children and through fear."

"To the people who have been offended by what I did, I want to say that I respect you for standing up for what you believe in and I want you to know that I am not your enemy," she said. On Saturday Night Live she urged viewers to fight the Pope, whom she dubbed "the real enemy."

Later, O'Connor was booed off the stage during a Bob Dylan tribute concert in New York. On Wednesday, a crowd cheered as a steamroller crushed a collection of her records in New York. O'Connor's statement urged protesters "to study the history of the Roman Empire/Vatican and observe the ways in which they have distorted history." I know we have been given lies to believe in, and I'm trying to tell the truth. That is what we need to fight and win. I am fighting." She concluded: "God is truth."

Clinton, Bush share blue blood links

LONDON (R) — President George Bush and his Democratic challenger Bill Clinton are not just distant cousins — they share royal ancestors traced back to 13th-century England, according to Britain's leading genealogical authority. Burke's Peerage said Mr. Bush, who is already known to be Queen Elizabeth's 13th cousin, and Mr. Clinton are royal cousins — at least 20 times removed, both are descended from King John of England. Mr. Bush through John's son Henry III and Mr. Clinton through his daughter, Eleanor, said a five-page report from Burke's that included a family tree for Mr. Clinton, governor of the state of Arkansas.

Dietrich's emerald, diamond set fetch \$99,000 at auction

NEW YORK (R) — A 37-carat emerald and diamond bracelet and ring set worn by the late film star marlene dietrich the day she became a U.S. citizen sold for \$99,000 at Christie's auction house. Dietrich wore the bracelet on June 9, 1939, and upon her naturalisation the sultry German-born screen legend declared she was "glad to be a niece of Uncle Sam." Dietrich wore the bracelet in several of her famed photographic fashion portraits by Edward Steichen and C.S. Bull and in the films Angel (1937) and Desire (1936). The set, which Christie's had estimated would sell for \$80,000, went to an unidentified bidder by telephone. Though the emerald set was one of her most prized possessions, Dietrich nearly lost part of it one night when she baked a cake at a dinner party at a friend's house. While mixing the cake's ingredients, Dietrich unknowingly dropped the set's centerpiece into the bowl. The precious gem was not found until dessert when someone took a bite of the cake and got a mouthful of emerald.

Mother blocks abortion for teenage rape victim

CAPE TOWN (R) — A 14-year-old South African rape victim was locked in a court battle with her mother over her attempt to have an abortion. The Cape Town branch of the Supreme Court overruled the mother's opposition and said the Groote Schuur Hospital could go ahead with the procedure. But the mother, who may not be named to protect the child's identity, won a stay, saying she wanted a ruling by the Appeal Court in Bloemfontein. Court officials said the Appeal Court, which usually takes up to a year to give a decision, could rule within days. The child, who lives with her grandmother, was granted an exemption from the South African ban on abortions because she had been raped by a 17-year-old youth living in the same house. She is 19 weeks pregnant and must by law have the operation before the end of the 22nd week. Her mother, backed by a pro-life movement, says the child had a voluntary relationship with the boy and argues that her case does not satisfy the requirements for a legal abortion.